

# KURDS RECLAIM KOBANI

## Islamic State pushed out of stronghold in Syria

By ZEINA KARAM  
The Associated Press

Kurdish fighters backed by intense U.S.-led airstrikes pushed the Islamic State group entirely out of a key Syrian town on Monday, marking a major defeat for the extremists whose hopes for an easy victory when they pushed into Kobani last year dissolved into a bloody, costly and monthslong siege.

As their victory neared, the Kurdish troops

earlier in the day raised their flag on a hill overlooking the town just across the border with Turkey, replacing the Islamic State group's black banner.

The battlefield success is a major conquest both for Syria's embattled Kurds and the U.S.-led coalition, whose American coordinator had predicted that the Islamic State group would "impale itself" on Kobani.

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**Smoke rises from the Syrian city of Kobani following an airstrike by the U.S.-led coalition on Nov. 17.**

AP

## YEMEN

## US kills 3 al-Qaida suspects with drone

By AHMED AL-HAJ  
The Associated Press

SANAA, Yemen — A U.S. drone strike in Yemen, the first this year, killed three al-Qaida fighters on Monday, signaling Washington's determination to keep targeting the global terrorist network's most lethal branch despite the resignation of the Yemeni president, a top U.S. ally, in the face of a Shiite rebel power grab.

Hours later, the State Department announced the U.S. Embassy in Yemen was closing to the public "until further notice" over security concerns as street gunbattles and political turmoil continue to roil this impoverished Arab country.

Defense Department spokesman Col. Steve Warren said Monday that U.S. military forces have not been called on to evacuate Americans from Yemen since the latest crisis erupted. However, the USS Iwo Jima and the USS Fort McHenry, along with a contingent of U.S. Marines, are in the Red Sea in case they are needed.

The drone strike was also the first such U.S. action since Shiite rebels known as Houthis placed embattled President Abed Rabbo Mansour Hadi and his Cabinet under house arrest last week in an attempt to force them to make political concessions. After reaching a tentative deal with the Houthis, the president and his government resigned in an effort to thwart rebel attempts to force more compromises.

Yemeni tribal and security officials in the central province of Marib said a missile hit a vehicle carrying three men near the boundary with neighboring Shabwa province, an al-Qaida stronghold.

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## QUOTE OF THE DAY

"A lot of people ask me if you can afford to put out a new [Army operational] concept because of budget constraints, and I say we can't afford not to. If there is ever a time when you need to have priorities and vision, it is when you have constrained resources."

— Gen. David Perkins, commander of U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command

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## MILITARY

# Army starts virtual training on missile defense system

By JENNIFER HLAID  
Stars and Stripes

The Army on Friday cut the ribbon on the service's new virtual training facility, moving from training whole batteries on its newest missile defense system to individual training in a classroom at Fort Sill, Okla.

The Terminal High Altitude Area Defense, or THAAD, system is designed to intercept tactical ballistic missiles. The system can see much farther and fly higher than the Patriot missile, said Col. Jim Payne, commander of the 3rd Air Defense Artillery Brigade.

"It buys us time," he said. "And that's very important."

The first THAAD battery was activated in 2008. One of the

three active THAAD batteries moved to Guam in 2013, becoming the first operational unit.

While the Army has a military occupational specialty for Patriot operators, THAAD operators won't get their own MOS. Communications architecture or Patriot soldiers will train on THAAD as an additional skill, Payne said.

Until last year, the Army sent instructors to the units to train them all at once. Now, soldiers just out of boot camp or more senior soldiers assigned to THAAD units can learn to use the system in the 100,000-square-foot virtual training facility at Fort Sill.

Payne said the virtual trainers look and feel the same as the launcher vehicle, but have a video game-type system running



MARIE BERBEREA/Courtesy of the U.S. Army

The Terminal High Altitude Area Defense missile launcher sits recently at Fort Sill, Okla., the Army's only THAAD training facility.

in them for virtual simulations. The three-person cab also can be "opened like a burrito" so there is a larger area for instructors to use for the training, he said.

The facility took about two years to build and cost \$27 million, making it on time and under budget, Payne said. It was dedicated Friday as the Lt. Gen. C.J. LeVan THAAD Instructional Fa-

cility, a tribute to a retired general who worked on rocket and missile programs and is credited as a visionary in air defense doctrine.

The Army is building its fourth THAAD battery now, with plans for seven batteries of about 100 soldiers, Payne said.

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## Greek F-16 crashes during NATO exercise, killing 10

The Associated Press

MADRID — A Greek F-16 fighter jet crashed into other planes on the ground during NATO training in southeastern Spain Monday, killing at least 10 people, Spain's Defense Ministry said.

Another 13 people were injured in the incident at the Los Llanos base, which sent flames and a plume of black smoke billowing into the air, a Defense Ministry official said.

Most of the victims were not believed to be Spaniards, according to the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity because of ministry rules preventing him from being named.

According to a U.S. Defense Department spokeswoman citing initial reporting, all U.S. personnel have been accounted for and none were killed. An unknown number were treated for minor injuries.

The 48th Fighter Wing on Sunday put on its Instagram account that it was participating in the exercise, but could not comment by deadline.

The two-seat jet was taking off when it crashed into an area of the base where other planes involved in the NATO exercise were parked, the ministry said in a statement.

Emergency crews were working to douse the blaze and determine how much damage there was to other planes involved in the NATO exercise, the ministry said.

A NATO spokeswoman declined to disclose details, referring questions to Spanish and Greek military officials.

The Spanish ministry said the jet that crashed was taking part in a NATO training exercise called the Tactical Leadership Program.

According to a U.S. Air Force Website, TLP was formed in 1978



JOSENA MORENO/AP

Smoke rises from a military base after a Greek F-16 crashed into other planes during NATO training in Albacete, Spain, on Monday.

by NATO's Central Region air forces to advance their tactical capabilities and produce tactics, techniques and procedures that improve multi-national tactical air operations.

The first TLP course was located at Fuerstenfeldbruck Air Base, Germany. It has been based at the Spanish base since June 2009.

Stars and Stripes contributed to this report.

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## MILITARY



Courtesy of the U.S. Navy

The USNS Sgt. Matej Kocak waits to depart Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, on Jan. 7

## Servicemembers leave ship grounded off Okinawa

By ERIK SLAVIN  
Stars and Stripes

YOKOSUKA NAVAL BASE, Japan — Dozens of servicemembers have debarked the USNS Sgt. Matej Kocak, which remained grounded Monday on a reef about 6 miles east of Okinawa, military officials said.

Of the 131 people who were aboard when the Kocak ran aground at 11:30 a.m. Friday, 47 soldiers and 18 Marines have since been transported by a landing craft ship to their shore-based commands, Commander Naval Forces Japan spokesman Cmdr. Ron Flanders said.

Maritime pre-positioning ships like the Kocak can carry up to a brigade's worth of gear. The soldiers and Marines aboard the

civilian-crewed ship were maintaining the gear while headed to military exercises, officials said.

The 821-foot cargo ship remains stuck on a reef just outside a deep-water shipping channel, where the open ocean is separated from Nakagusuku Bay, also known as Buckner Bay. How the cargo ship ended up outside the channel remains under investigation, Flanders said.

The ship sustained some damage during the incident and has been taking on a low level of water, but officials say it is not a threat to the ship or its remaining crew.

"The ship remains stable, and there is no danger of flooding," Flanders said.

Tugboats connected to the Kocak are keeping the ship from

jostling too much over the reef and rocks, officials said.

Meanwhile, a team from the Navy's Supervisor of Diving and Salvage and another from the Military Sealift Command, which owns the Kocak, are trying to determine the best way to get the ship off the reef.

Complicating the effort is the presence of live coral reef in the area. It remained unclear Monday whether significant environmental damage occurred when the ship ran aground, Flanders said.

Crew safety and environmental protection will be primary factors in determining how to extricate the ship, Flanders said.

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## Company seeks volunteers to teach English, tourism classes in N. Korea

By ASHLEY ROWLAND  
Stars and Stripes

SEOUL, South Korea — Looking to beef up your teaching resume? Like to get off the beaten path? North Korea, one of the most reclusive countries in the world, might be just the answer.

London-based Juche Travel Services, which arranges travel packages to the North, is now offering volunteers one-month stints teaching English and tourism management and development at the Pyongyang Tourism College.

Even though the North isn't exactly known as a travel hotspot,

Juche Travel's David Thompson told the Mirror newspaper that the country wants to expand its tourism services in coming years and needs more foreign-language skills and travel expertise to do so.

The company hopes to run the program in May and November. Volunteers will visit "scenic places of interest" across the country on weekends, according to Juche's website, but Thompson said they will not be allowed to move freely. Previous visitors to the country have been tightly controlled by government ministers and prevented from interacting with locals, and have reported

having their cellphones confiscated. Many said they suspected their computers and hotel rooms were bugged.

Thompson said that "by building bridges and engaging with the country, you are helping to break down mistrust and preconceptions that have persisted for the past 60 odd years. That can only be a good thing."

While the program is being run on a nonprofit basis, volunteers must pay an "arrangement fee" of 1,000 euros, or approximately \$1,117, to cover the costs of their stay.

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# General: Forces in Europe lead way in 'complex world'

By JOHN VANDIVER  
Stars and Stripes

STUTTGART, Germany — If the Army's new operating concept is about preparing to fight in an increasingly complex security environment, forces in Europe are in some ways on the leading edge, said the Army's top general in charge of training.

"In many ways, what's going on here in U.S. Army Europe is really leading the force, from an Army point of view," Gen. David Perkins, commander of U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command, said during a visit to Germany on Monday. "They are dealing in a very complex world."

In October, the Army issued an operational concept dubbed "Win in a Complex World," which puts a premium on adapting to a range of unpredictable threats and working with allies to counter them.

"What we're saying is, in the future, we see the rate of complexity increasing, which means the ability of our leaders to understand that complex world is going to be more about the leaders than any single piece of equipment," Perkins said in a telephone interview from Wiesbaden, where he was at USAREUR headquarters to talk with leaders about the service's new operational focus.

The unpredictable nature of global security is illustrated by Russia's intervention last year in Ukraine, which caught the U.S. and its allies off guard and reawakened long-dormant Cold War fears about the potential for conflict in Europe.

The Army has responded to the crisis in Ukraine by refocusing forces on missions in eastern European countries on Russia's periphery, where allies in the Baltics and Poland have been unnerved by Russia's actions. Perkins said those efforts will pay dividends both strategically and in leader development for the Army.

"We have very junior leaders out there doing it, not only representing the Army, but representing the nation. They have to be well versed on the geopolitical situation. They have to interface with heads of state, ambassadors," Perkins said. "We're now going to have a whole generation of leaders that have to deal with the complexity of deploying and operating in a multinational environment."

In Europe, the Army is boosting its presence after years of cutbacks. However, the modest surge in presence is in the form of rotational forces rather than increasing the number of those permanently stationed at garrisons on the Continent. Regionally connecting certain U.S.-based Army units to Europe is ensuring young soldiers and officers get exposed to a range of security challenges, Perkins said.

The Army presence also helps send a message both to allies and to potential adversaries, the general said.

"If there are U.S. Army forces on the ground, that shows a huge level of commitment," Perkins said. "Just having boots on the ground of American soldiers in a country that may have a security threat is a huge deterrent ... It gives us the ability to assure our allies and deter aggression."

The Army's new operational concept comes at a time when budget pressures are forcing deep cuts to the service's end strength, which could dip as low as 420,000 if lawmakers don't put an end to automatic budget cuts known as sequestration.

"A lot of people ask me if you can afford to put out a new [Army] operational concept because of budget constraints, and I say we can't afford not to," Perkins said. "If there is ever a time when you need to have priorities and vision, it is when you have constrained resources."

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DANIEL COLE/Courtesy of the U.S. Army

Gen. David Perkins, commander of U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command, speaks Monday in Wiesbaden, Germany.

## MILITARY

## Electric bike to allow quiet approach

By SETH ROBSON  
Stars and Stripes

The U.S. military is hoping to field an electric motorcycle that would allow soldiers to quietly glide into battle, providing an element of surprise and potentially cutting down on roadside bomb attacks, according to a defense contractor hired to build the bike for the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency.

This month, Logos Technologies was awarded a DARPA contract to construct and test a prototype of its SilentHawk hybrid motorcycle, in partnership with California's Alta Motors.

DARPA's requirements — released in August 2013 — are for an extremely quiet, multi-fuel, off-road motorcycle that can travel 26-50 miles on battery power alone.

Those capabilities would have been useful in places like Afghanistan, where the Taliban's weapon of choice — the improvised explosive device — often targeted large armored vehicles full of U.S. soldiers. Some 1,400 coalition soldiers have been killed in IED attacks in Afghanistan, according to the website [icasualties.org](http://icasualties.org).

The quietness of motorcycles also can help negate the threat of roadside bombs in future conflicts, according to Logos advanced concepts manager Wade Pulliam.

"IEDs are cheap, but they are static," he said. "You have to know where your enemy is coming from."

Motorcycles also would allow troops to approach an objective from almost any direction — be it through woods or across fields, he said.

Pulliam said his company's SilentHawk bike would fulfill DARPA's requirements and do even more. The design weighs under 350 pounds, so it could be flown into combat. Its hybrid-electric power system — originally developed for an unmanned aircraft — gives it a range of up to 170 miles, and it's capable of carrying 75 pounds of gear and recharging electronic devices, Pulliam said.

Lithuanian Special Forces troops and Afghan security forces have used motocross bikes to chase down the enemy. However, the U.S. military uses motorcycles only for simple tasks such as driving around airfields, Pulliam



Courtesy of Spector and Associates

**An artist's rendering depicts Logos Technologies' hybrid motorcycle that will be used by the U.S. military on the battlefield. A silent electric motorcycle would allow U.S. troops to move more easily through the war zone.**

said.

"They (conventional motorcycles) aren't really used in actual kinetic military missions ... because you are announcing your presence ahead of time," he said.

Quiet combat vehicles have long been a dream of military planners, he said, adding, "The technology is here now to do this sort thing."

**'IEDs are cheap, but they are static. You have to know where your enemy is coming from.'**

Wade Pulliam  
Logos Technologies

terview that vast amounts of resources put into building armored vehicles for combat in Iraq and Afghanistan might have been avoided if the military had made different strategic, operational or tactical choices such as patrolling with motorcycles. In Iraq, for example, special operators often patrolled in beat-up taxis instead of armored vehicles, he said.

"They (unarmored vehicles) were very effective in avoiding ambushes," Johnson said, while adding that they wouldn't be a good fit for operations such as "presence" patrols or large-scale

logistical efforts.

SilentHawk is based on a recreational electric motorcycle — Alta's Red Shift — which is expected to go on sale this year. The fact that the military vehicle shares its base components with the recreational bike will cut costs due to economies of scale, Pulliam said.

Logos is working on modifications that will make it to a "series hybrid" that converts fuel energy into electric power. The company's modular design will allow a mechanic to convert the SilentHawk into a lighter, all-electric vehicle in 30 minutes, he said.

A challenge for the designers is finding the best place to install the new hybrid electric components on the bike, Pulliam said.

"We want to maintain the capabilities of the commercial bike — balance between the front and rear ends — when we add components," he said.

The bike's engine can run on military-grade JP8 fuel, but it is also capable of burning gasoline or kerosene. The SilentHawk will use regenerative braking to recapture energy, giving it a 16 percent improvement in efficiency in rough terrain, he said.

Pulliam expects field testing to start in spring 2016.

"There is potential to convert other military vehicles into hybrid electric, which would be more fuel-efficient and quieter than conventional tanks and armored personnel carriers. However, heavier vehicles require more battery power, and it's difficult to retrofit vehicles with conventional engines, he said.

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## GAO: Pentagon has no handle on personnel budget

By LISA REIN  
The Washington Post

Facing budget pressures, Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel said two years ago that he was ordering the number of top brass and senior civilians at the Pentagon to start shrinking by 20 percent. But federal auditors reported last week that the Defense Department has not produced a realistic plan to make the cuts — and can't say how many people it has or needs at its management headquarters.

In a new report, the Government Accountability Office described an unwieldy personnel system that seems unable to account for the size of military and civilian staffs at the Office of the Secretary of Defense, the Joint Staff and the Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Air Force secretariats and staffs — all headquarters that ballooned in size after the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, and have only recently begun to level off.

Compounding the problem, contractors form a large chunk of these employees, but the Defense Department does not have an accurate handle on how large, auditors found.

"Without a systematic determination of personnel requirements and periodic reassessment of them, DOD will not be well positioned to proactively identify efficiencies and limit personnel growth within these headquarters organizations," the GAO concluded in the 90-page report.

In other words, downsizing is hard to do when you don't know how big you are.

Auditors are consistently finding that cutting layers of management requires a reliable starting point for how big the military bureaucracy has gotten; the Defense Department apparently does not have one. The agency has not reported to Congress on its efforts to shrink headquarters staff after getting a June 2014 deadline extended to December, the GAO found.

The Defense Department's headquarters organizations are responsible for policymaking, budgeting and management of defense functions, among other key roles.

**'[A]ccounting for the resources devoted to headquarters has been a long-standing challenge for DOD.'**

Government Accountability Office

"However, accounting for the resources devoted to headquarters has been a long-standing challenge for DOD," auditors wrote.

The increases vary by organization. Civilian and military staff at Army headquarters, for example, grew by 60 percent to 3,639 in fiscal 2013, from 2,272 in fiscal 2001 — not including contractors.

Defense officials have faced pressure to push the military off a war footing with the drawdown of operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. Hagel's 2013 directive would force the Pentagon and command staffs to shed an estimated 3,000 to 5,000 jobs, a tiny percentage of the department's active-duty troops and civilian employees but a high-profile, symbolic effort to address growth in the bureaucracy's top layers.

Auditors also pointed out that the definition of a headquarters job is subject to interpretation. Many employees who report from non-headquarters offices at the DOD work in jobs such as planning and budgeting that overlap with work at headquarters. But those jobs aren't counted toward the total the agency has pledged to cut.

The GAO also recommended that defense officials set up a system to determine how many employees they need at headquarters units.

In response to the audit's conclusions, some defense officials told the GAO that they do not regularly reassess how many employees they need because their needs do not change much from year to year. The DOD raised concerns that the GAO report "lacks perspective when characterizing the department's headquarters staff" given that the scope of headquarters' missions requires a "complex and multilayered structure."

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## WAR ON TERRORISM

# Iraqi lawmaker: 'Sleeper cells' fight insurgents

BY SAMEER N. YACUB  
The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — "Sleeper cells" made up of former Iraqi police officers and soldiers are tipping off authorities to Islamic State group positions in the northern city of Mosul, a prominent lawmaker has told The Associated Press.

The comments by Hakim al-Zamili, the head of parliament's security and defense committee, are the first high-level confirmation of the groups' existence after weeks of rumors.

Their work remains incredibly dangerous, as the Islamic State group has shut down mobile phone networks and regularly kills suspected government collaborators. However, their intelligence could prove invaluable as the U.S.-led coalition steps up airstrikes around Mosul, Iraq's second-largest city, to disrupt Islamic State group supply lines ahead of an expected operation later this year to take back the city from militants.

"Those patriotic groups, some operate from inside the city of Mosul and others from the areas surrounding it, are now giving us information about the military preparations being made by Islamic State group in order to face any attack by government forces to retake the city," al-Zamili told the AP.

The Islamic State group captured Mosul in August during its blitz across northern Iraq. The militants now hold about a third of both Iraq and neighboring Syria in its self-declared caliphate.

Many soldiers and police officers dropped their weapons and fled during the extremists' initial

offensive. Now, however, some have begun spying on behalf of the Iraqi government, al-Zamili said. Resentment among Mosul residents overall has grown as prices of most food staples have more than doubled, kerosene is in short supply and militants have banned alcohol and cigarettes.

In late November, the Islamic State group blocked all mobile phone networks in Mosul, accusing informants in the city of tipping off coalition and Iraqi forces to their whereabouts. The move caused chaos across Mosul.

Typically, informants leave Mosul and head to higher altitudes to get a network signal so they can make calls, al-Zamili said. Their information then gets passed to Iraqi security commanders in charge of airstrikes and military operation in Nineveh province, the lawmaker said. So far, the information has not been shared with U.S.-led forces, he said.

"We receive a lot of useful information from Mosulis who are becoming fed up with the militants and this is the reason why the IS group blocked all mobile phone networks in the city," he said.

In recent days, coalition airstrikes pounded at least two dozen locations around Mosul, destroying dozens of vehicles, buildings, fighting positions and insurgent units.

The airstrikes, said one senior military official, are the start of a new phase, and military leaders are watching to see how the militants respond.

The official was not authorized to discuss the operations publicly so spoke on condition of anonymity.



KARIM KADIM/AP

Hakim al-Zamili, an Iraqi parliament member and head of the Security and Defense Committee, speaks during an interview with The Associated Press on Thursday in Baghdad.

## No progress in talks on Japanese hostage

The Associated Press

TOKYO — A Japanese diplomat emerged from talks in Jordan on Monday with no signs of progress in securing the release of a freelance journalist held hostage by the extremist Islamic State group.

Japanese officials refused direct comment on the contents of the talks in Jordan, where Japanese Deputy Foreign Minister Yasuhide Nakayama is coordinating regional efforts to save hostage Kenji Goto.

The Islamic State group said in an online video on Jan. 20 that it had two Japanese hostages and would kill them within 72 hours unless Japan paid it \$200 million — the same amount Tokyo recently pledged in aid to nations fighting the militants.

Over the weekend, a new, unverified video showed a still photo of Goto, 47, holding a pic-

ture of what appears to be the body of fellow hostage Haruna Yukawa. It included a recording of a voice claiming to be Goto, saying his captors now want the release of a prisoner held in Jordan instead of a ransom.

Asked if the latest demand makes the situation more complex, chief Japanese government spokesman Yoshihide Suga avoided a straight answer. "Naturally, Jordan has its own thoughts," he said.

"The government is doing its utmost as the situation is still developing," he told reporters. "We are seeking cooperation from every possible party toward a release (of the remaining hostage)."

Japanese officials have indicated they are treating the video released over the weekend as authentic and thus accepting the likelihood that Yukawa, 42, an adventurer captured in Syria

last summer, was killed.

"It was an extremely distasteful act," Suga said.

In Amman, Jordan, Nakayama emerged from meetings with no fresh progress to report.

"Due to the nature of this problem, please understand why I cannot disclose information such as with whom I had meetings," he said.

Nakayama vowed to "absolutely not give up until the end."

U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon appealed for Goto's unconditional release.

"The Japanese hostage, Mr. Goto, needs to be released unconditionally," U.N. spokesman Stephane Dujarric said. "That's what we call for, and we call for the release of all other people who are being held against their will by extremist groups in the region."

## Fall: Observers say only some sporadic fighting remains on edge of town

FROM FRONT PAGE

The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights and Kobani-based Syrian activist Farhad Shami said the Islamic State group had been fully expelled, with some sporadic fighting on the outer eastern edges of the town.

In September, Islamic State fighters began capturing some 300 Kurdish villages near Kobani and thrust into the town itself, occupying nearly half of it. Tens of thousands of refugees spilled across the border into Turkey.

By October, the Islamic State group's control of Kobani was so widespread that it even made a propaganda video from the town featuring a captive British photojournalist, John Cantlie, to con-

**U.S. Central Command said that it had carried out 17 airstrikes near Kobani over the last 24 hours, targeting Islamic State group infrastructure and positions.**

vey its message that Islamic State fighters had pushed deep inside despite U.S.-led airstrikes.

Kobani, whose capture would have given the jihadi group control of a border crossing with Turkey and opened direct lines between its positions along the border, quickly became a centerpiece of the U.S.-led air campaign in Syria. Secretary of State John Kerry declared it would be

"morally very difficult" not to help Kobani.

The U.S.-led air assault began Sept. 23, with Kobani the target of about a half-dozen airstrikes on average each day, and often more. More than 80 percent of all coalition airstrikes in Syria have been in or around the town. At one point in October, the U.S. air campaign dropped bundles of weapons and medical supplies

for Kurdish fighters — a first in the Syrian conflict.

Analysts, as well as Syrian and Kurdish activists, credit the campaign and the arrival in October of heavily armed Kurdish peshmerga fighters from Iraq, who neutralized the Islamic State group's artillery advantage, for bringing key areas of the town under Kurdish control.

Idriss Nassan, a senior Kurdish official, said U.S.-led coalition strikes became more intense in the past few days, helping Kurdish fighters in their final push toward Islamic State group positions on the southern and eastern edges of the town.

U.S. Central Command said Monday that it had carried out 17 airstrikes near Kobani over the

last 24 hours that struck Islamic State group infrastructure and fighting positions.

Nassan said he was preparing to head into Kobani on Tuesday and expected the town to be fully free by then.

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## WAR ON TERRORISM

# White House stays the course on Yemen

By JOSE A. DELREAL  
The Washington Post

White House chief of staff Denis McDonough on Sunday sought to shore up the Obama administration's message on recent events in the Middle East, stressing that the collapse of Yemen's central government will not derail strategic counterterrorism operations in the region.

"I think it's very important to recognize that governance in Yemen has always been difficult," McDonough said on CBS' "Face the Nation." "We will continue to press on the ground, including today, to make decisions transparently, pursuant to a political agreement, so that we can work with them to keep on the offensive against al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula."

McDonough's comments came during a post-State of the Union blitz that included appearances on all five major Sunday talk shows. Predictably, given recent events, the domestic policy agenda outlined by the president in last week's annual address took a back seat to questions about the administration's foreign policy.

News that Yemen's government had been toppled by Shiite rebels known as Houthis — who oppose America's ally, Saudi Arabia — took particular priority.

"We don't have a partner now, do we?" asked ABC's "This Week" host George Stephanopoulos before questioning whether the administration will be able to work with Houthis in the fight against al-Qaida.

"I'm not going to jump to any conclusions," McDonough said. "I am going to say to the parties on the ground that they have to resolve this transparently, peacefully, politically. And we will, while they're doing that, continue to make sure that we're focused on the threat to us and to our people."

McDonough, speaking on behalf of the White House, stressed that the United States would not intervene to stabilize the government in Yemen.

"We cannot be an occupying force in a place like Yemen or in Syria and hope that we will be responsible for bringing this, say, 'chaos' to an end. We ought to



A Houthi Shiite fighter chants slogans during a demonstration to show support for his comrades in Sanaa, Yemen, on Friday.

train them, the security forces. We ought to press their political leaders to come up with political resolutions on the ground," McDonough said on CNN's "State of the Union."

He added, "We will take action to protect the American people. This president has done that. He will continue to do that."

Two senior senators recommended on Sunday that Obama send more troops — or at least Special Operations forces and intelligence teams — to combat the rising anti-American forces in Yemen.

Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., and chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, called the Obama administration's strategy in Yemen "delusional" and said Obama and McDonough "have lost touch with reality" if they reject the need for U.S. forces there.

"We need more boots on the ground," McCain said on "Face the Nation." "I know that's a tough thing to say and a tough thing for Americans to swallow."

He added that the United States does not need to send the 82nd Airborne Division but should install more intelligence operatives and Special Forces teams.

McCain said the Houthis who wrested control of the Yemeni government are supported by Iranians.

"I did not hear Mr. McDonough articulate a strategy, except that

we will fight against these people, which is nice to know," McCain said. "But when you look at the map, that Iranians are on the march. AQAP and [the Islamic State] ... are doing quite well. There is no strategy to defeat them," he said, using the initials for al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula.

Sen. Dianne Feinstein, of California, the former longtime chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee and now its top Democrat, said she agreed with McCain that some U.S. presence is needed.

McDonough also fielded questions on a controversial congressional invitation extended to Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

"Is the president, is the White House, are you angry with Speaker [John] Boehner for doing this on his own and for Netanyahu accepting it on his own without any consultation with the White House?" asked Chris Wallace on "Fox News Sunday."

"Look, I don't spend a lot of time on my emotions or getting angry," McDonough said. "And here's the way the president has always seen the U.S.-Israel relationship: as above partisan politics, something that is fundamentally in our interest. And so, that's how we'll continue to treat this, irrespective of how this thing goes back and forth."

## Yemen: US is still training local forces to fight terrorism amid turmoil

### FROM FRONT PAGE

Warren would not confirm that the drone strikes occurred, but said, "We will continue to hunt [al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula] wherever they are."

An al-Qaida member told The Associated Press that one of the three slain fighters was Saudi while the other two were Yemenis. He identified the Saudi man as Awaid al-Rashidi, who he said was in his 30s and had been imprisoned in Saudi Arabia for seven years, apparently over terrorism charges. The two Yemeni al-Qaida members killed in the strike were Abdel-Aziz al-Sanaani and Mohammed al-Jahmi from Marib's tribe of Jahmi, the member said.

Both Yemeni officials and the al-Qaida member spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak to media.

The Houthis, who claim to only want an equal share of power, had seized the capital of Sanaa and its central province in September and at least eight other provinces after descending from their northern stronghold.

Critics say the Shiite Houthi rebels want to retain Hadi as president in name only, while keeping their iron grip on power. They also accuse the Houthis of being a proxy of Iran, an allegation the rebels deny.

The prospect of a leaderless Yemen has raised concerns about Washington's ability to continue targeting al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula, as the Yemeni branch is known. The group claimed the recent attack on a French sailer last week and has mounted several failed attacks on the U.S. homeland.

The particular operations in Yemen continue," Warren told reporters. "Training [of local counterterrorism forces] in Yemen continue, although they are curtailed in some cases."

Warren would not say how or the extent to which training has been curtailed, calling it "a fluid

situation."

The Houthis are staunch opponents of al-Qaida, but in their push into Sunni-dominated areas, they risk driving locals into the arms of al-Qaida insurgents and turning their power struggle into sectarian warfare. The Houthis are Zaidis, a Shiite minority that makes up about a third of Yemen's population.

Warren was asked if there was any ongoing intelligence cooperation between the U.S. and the Houthis for counterterrorism purposes. Warren declined to comment on intelligence cooperation specifically, but said, "We work hard and we work with everyone who is willing to work with us in our efforts to hunt and destroy" al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula.

Monday's strike came a day after President Barack Obama defended his counterterrorism strategy in Yemen, saying his approach "is not neat and it is not simple, but it is the best option we have." He ruled out deploying U.S. forces there.

"The alternative would be massive U.S. deployments in perpetuity, which would create its own blowback and cause probably more problems than it would potentially solve," Obama said during a joint media appearance with Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Obama said that while he was concerned about the fragility of Yemen's central government, the country "has never been a perfect democracy or an island of stability."

In September, as Houthis were on the march to take Sanaa, Obama cited Yemen as a terrorism success story as he outlined his strategy against the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria, which involves targeted U.S. strikes against militants with the cooperation of a friendly ground force. Obama called it an approach "that we have successfully pursued in Yemen and Somalia for years."

## Malaysia Air site hackers claim they're pro-Islamic State

By KELVIN CHAN  
The Associated Press

HONG KONG — The website of Malaysia Airlines was hacked Monday by a group that proclaimed support for the militant Islamic State group and also vowed to release data stolen from the site.

The airline's site was down for at least seven hours, replaced by a message from the hacker group, before the company brought it back online by mid-afternoon in Malaysia.

Website hackers at first changed the site to display a message say-

ing "404 — Plane Not Found" and that it was "Hacked by Cyber Caliphate," with a photo of one of the airline's Airbus A380 superjumbo jets. The browser bar for the website said "ISIS will prevail."

Malaysia Airlines is struggling to recover from twin disasters last year, including the disappearance of Flight 370, which authorities believe crashed 1,100 miles off Australia's west coast, and the downing of Flight 17 over Ukraine.

The hackers later replaced the jet with a picture of a lizard in a top hat, monocle and tuxedo

smoking a pipe. The Islamic State reference was removed and the claim of responsibility changed to "Lizard Squad — Official Cyber Caliphate," with a link to the group's Twitter account.

The airline said in a statement that it was a "temporary glitch" that didn't affect passenger bookings and that the breach had been reported to Malaysia's transport ministry and Internet security agency. It said user data "remains secured."

The group, however, tweeted that it was "going to dump some loot found on malaysiaairlines.com servers soon," and posted a link to a screenshot of what appeared to be a passenger flight booking from the airline's internal email system.

The particular booking was made by Malaysian Amy Keh, who said she had made it in October for her mother and two relatives to travel from Kuala Lumpur to Taiwan in March.

"I am a bit worried about their security. Now the whole world knows that they will be going to Taipei," said Keh, who logged on Monday to check the itinerary. She said the website looked dif-

ferent and she called the airline, which told her of the hacking. She found out only when contacted by The Associated Press that the travel information was posted online.

The Lizard Squad group last year claimed it was behind attacks on Sony's online PlayStation network and Microsoft's Xbox site. In August, it also tweeted to American Airlines that there might be explosives on a plane carrying the president of Sony Online Entertainment, which makes video games, forcing the flight to be diverted.

## NATION

# “Potentially historic” blizzard headed for NE

By VERENA DOBNIK  
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — A potentially historic blizzard could dump up to 2 feet of snow on a large part of the U.S. Northeast, crippling a region that has largely been spared so far this winter, the National Weather Service said. Thousands of flights were canceled.

The National Weather Service said the storm, known as a nor'easter, would bring heavy snow, powerful winds and widespread coastal flooding through Tuesday. A blizzard warning was issued for a 250-mile stretch of the Northeast, including New York and Boston.

“This could be a storm the likes of which we have never seen before,” New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio told a news conference in a Manhattan sanitation garage where workers were preparing plows and salt for the massive cleanup on about 6,000 miles of city roadways.

Airlines canceled or delayed more than 4,000 flights into and out of East Coast airports. Boston’s Logan International Airport said there would be no flights after 7 p.m. Sunday, and did not expect to resume flights until late Wednesday.



A crewmember de-ices a Frontier Airlines plane at LaGuardia Airport in New York on Monday.

Some schools were planning to close early or not open at all Monday in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York and Connecticut.

Government officials began to activate emergency centers on Sunday as professional sports teams, schools and utilities hast-

ily revised their schedules and made preparations.

In Massachusetts, Gov. Charlie Baker warned residents to

prepare for roads that are “very hard, if not impossible, to navigate,” power outages and possibly even a lack of public transportation.

**“This could be a storm the likes of which we’ve never seen before.”**

**Bill de Blasio**  
New York City mayor

The Washington area expected only a couple of inches, with steadily increasing amounts as the storm heads north.

“We do anticipate very heavy snowfall totals,” said Bob Oravec, lead forecaster with the weather service in College Park, Md.

“In addition to heavy snow, with blizzard warnings, there’s a big threat of high, damaging winds, and that will be increasing Monday into Tuesday.”

Wind gusts of 75 mph or more are possible for coastal areas of Massachusetts.

## Sheriffs call for Google to disable police-tracking app

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Sheriffs are campaigning to pressure Google Inc. to turn off a feature on its Waze traffic software that warns drivers when police are nearby. They say one of the technology industry’s most popular mobile apps could put officers’ lives in danger from would-be police killers who can find where their targets are parked.

Waze, which Google purchased for \$966 million in 2013, is a combination of GPS navigation and social networking. Fifty million users in 200 countries turn to the free service for real-time traffic guidance and warnings about nearby congestion, car accidents, speed traps or traffic cameras, construction zones, potholes, stalled vehicles or unsafe weather conditions.

To Sergio Kopelev, a reserve deputy sheriff in Southern California, Waze is also a stalking app for law enforcement.

There are no known connections between any attack on police and Waze, but law enforcers such as Kopelev are concerned it’s only a matter of time. They are seeking support among other law enforcement trade groups to pressure Google to disable the police-reporting function.

Waze users mark police presence on maps without much distinction other than “visible” or “hidden.” Users see a police icon, but not immediately clear whether police are there for a

speed trap, a sobriety check or a lunch break. The police generally are operating in public spaces.

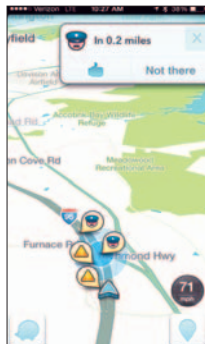
A Waze spokeswoman, Julie Mossler, said the company thinks deeply about safety and security. She said Waze works with the New York Police Department and others around the world by sharing information. Google declined to comment.

“These relationships keep citizens safe, promote faster emergency response and help alleviate traffic congestion,” Mossler said.

**Some officers believe Waze is a stalking app for police. However, there are no known connections between any attack on police and Waze.**

he called the “police stalker,” presents a danger to law enforcement.

“The police community needs to coordinate an effort to have the owner, Google, act like the responsible corporate citizen they have always been and remove this feature from the application



A Waze map depicts police on a road in Virginia.

even before any litigation or statutory action,” said Brown, who also serves as the chairman of the National Sheriffs Association technology committee.

Nuala O’Connor, head of the Center for Democracy and Technology, a Washington civil liberties group, said it would not be appropriate for Google to disable the police-reporting feature.

“I do not think it is legitimate to ask a person-to-person communication to cease simply because it reports on publicly visible law enforcement,” she said. She said a bigger concern among privacy advocates is how much information about customers Waze shares with law enforcement.

## More crime, fewer police cause Mardi Gras concern

The Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — Throughout the quieter parts of the French Quarter, residents and businesses have posted signs that read “Caution: Walk in Large Groups. We (heart) N.O.P.D. We Just Need More.”

It’s an unsettling message about violent crime in the Big Easy for the 1 million revelers about to descend for Carnival season, which this year ends on Feb. 17.

The signs are an embarrassment for a city that likes to say how safe it makes Mardi Gras year in and year out, despite the debauchery. During Carnival, the streets crawl not only with parties but with cops, state troopers, federal agents and private security officers.

Since November, a series of more than 60 robberies in and around the quarter has shocked residents and sparked outrage directed not so much at the New Orleans Police Department but at Mayor Mitch Landrieu, who is fighting complaints that he paints a too-flattering picture of his crime-fighting efforts.

Fears have been stoked by images of the attacks caught by a growing network of private surveillance cameras. The attackers have used knives, guns, fists, sharp objects, pepper spray and even punches on pedestrians.

“These are crimes of opportunity. These people are lying in wait,” said Harry Widmann, a lawyer whose California colleague was beaten unconscious in December

after he was attacked on his way back to his hotel. “You need to have a police presence.”

NOPD Superintendent Michael Harrison said the number of robberies is up somewhat from last year and that the attacks “are becoming more brazen.”

Applying pressure on Landrieu has been Sidney Torres IV, 39, a wealthy French Quarter entrepreneur who paid for a series of TV ads blaming the mayor. He said he couldn’t sit idle after his mansion on an oak-lined avenue along one edge of the quarter was burglarized in December, and then Bufo’s Bar & Restaurant next door to his home was robbed by two armed men.

Landrieu has sent more officers into the quarter, and police say they’re cracking down.

A Loyola University study of robberies in tourist areas during those months in 2007 and 2008 found visitors were the targets in 34 out of 155 robberies. The study put some of the blame on outsiders the edge of the quarter, which recently were incited and lured to unsafe places in search of drugs and sex.

“As we move into the carnival season, you are going to see a robust force on the streets,” Harrison said. “You are going to see much overtime as is necessary.”

The trouble with that pledge is that the NOPD is understaffed.

The force has lost about 500 officers since Hurricane Katrina struck in 2005, and it is now down to about 1,150 — far fewer than the 1,600 that Landrieu would like.



## NATION

# Federal employee bills show Capitol Hill's partisan split

By JOE DAVIDSON  
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — When it comes to federal employees, one party wants to give; the other plans to take away.

Legislation introduced by House Democrats and Republicans demonstrate their differing approaches to the federal workforce. With the GOP now running the House and the Senate, federal employees don't need to guess which party will prevail.

**ANALYSIS** Most of the early action on feds has been in the House. Both chambers will attempt — again — to tackle postal reform, but that's a special case for another day.

In the early days of this new Congress, House Republicans have proposed cutting the workforce 10 percent through attrition and Defense Department civilians by 15 percent through attrition or termination. Republicans also want to allow the Department of Veterans Affairs to take back employee bonuses and reduce the pensions of senior executives convicted of certain crimes.

Legislation to fire tax-delinquent feds likely will advance. Expect to see another push to make new hires pay more toward retirement than current workers and an effort to speed the employee disciplinary process.

Meanwhile, congressional Democrats, in the unwavering position of controlling nothing, can deliver little.

Rep. Gerald Connolly, D-Va., introduced legislation that would raise federal pay in 2016 by 3.8 percent, which probably is greater than its chances of approval.

There's a pattern here, and it's not one that will make feds happy. They should know, however, that not everything that is proposed passes. That might provide them some hope regarding the Republican offerings, but it also applies to Connolly's bill and others that federal-worker advocates might offer.

"No other group in our country has been demonized and demonized and asked to sacrifice more than our federal workforce," Connolly said when he introduced the

Federal Adjustment of Income Rate Act with 38 Democratic cosponsors and zero Republicans. "They have endured a three-year wage freeze, four years without locality pay, higher retirement contributions for certain employees, wage-reducing work furloughs, sequester cuts and a government shutdown. Enough is enough. It is time for Congress to provide the dedicated men and women of our federal workforce with fair compensation."

There would be fewer employees to demonize and demoralize under legislation introduced by Republican Reps. Cynthia Lummis, of Wyoming, and Mick Mulvaney, of South Carolina. Their bill would cut the number of staffers by 10 percent by limiting new hires to one for every three workers who leave the federal service. This is not a new plan, and it has little support among Republicans have taken control of the Senate. The bill calls for a similar reduction in service contracts.

"This bill forces agencies to take a step back, consider which positions are crucial and make decisions based on necessity," Lummis said.

The bill would require the 10 percent cut to be reached by Sept. 30, 2016, and maintained after that. If the hiring/attrition ratio or the reduction target is not met, the measure would impose a hiring freeze. The president could waive provisions in the legislation in cases of national security or other emergencies.

Rep. Ken Calvert, R-Calif., would give the Defense Department until 2022 to reach a 1.5 percent workforce reduction. In addition to using attrition, Calvert's bill allows for firings. It would "provide the Secretary of Defense the authority to assign greater weight to job performance versus tenure in a Reduction in Force than the Secretary currently has," according to a statement from Calvert's office.

Rep. Jeff Miller, R-Fla., chairman of the House Veterans' Affairs Committee, continues to push bills designed to knock away federal pay raises. His bill would allow VA to take back staff bonuses from what his news release calls "failed employees."



SUSAN WALSH/AP

Secret Service officers search the south grounds of the White House on Monday.

## Device, possibly aerial drone, found on White House grounds

By NEDRA PICKLER  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A device, possibly an unmanned aerial drone, was found on the White House grounds during the middle of the night while President Barack Obama and the first lady were in India, but his spokesman said Monday that it posed no threat.

It was unclear whether their daughters, Sasha and Malia, were at home at the time of the incident with their grandmother, Marian Robinson, who also lives at the White House. The White House had said before the president's trip that the daughters would remain in Washington to avoid

missing school.

The Secret Service, which is responsible for protecting the president and his family, had no immediate comment on what it found.

Obama's press secretary, Josh Earnest, speaking in New Delhi, did not deny that the object found at the White House was an aerial drone. Drones come in various sizes, some quite small, with purposes ranging from surveillance to recreational toys.

"There is a device that has been recovered by the Secret Service at the White House," Earnest said. "When asked if a drone was found. The early indications are that it does not pose any sort of ongoing

threat to anybody at the White House."

Police, fire and other emergency vehicles swarmed around the White House in the predawn hours, with several clustered near the southeast entrance to the mansion. The White House was dark and the entire perimeter was on lockdown until about 5 a.m., when those who work in the complex were allowed inside.

After daylight, more than a dozen Secret Service officers fanned out in a search across the White House lawn as snow began to fall. They peered down in the grass and used flashlights to look through the large bushes that line the mansion's driveway.

## Obama eyes wider wilderness designation in Alaska refuge, drawing officials' anger

By BECKY BOHRER  
AND JIM KUHNHEIN  
The Associated Press

JUNEAU, Alaska — President Barack Obama is proposing to designate the vast majority of Alaska's Arctic National Wildlife Refuge as a wilderness area, including its potentially oil-rich coastal plain, drawing an angry response from top state elected officials who see it as a land grab by the federal government.

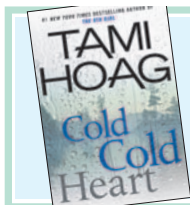
"They've decided that today

was the day that they were going to declare war on Alaska. Well, we are ready to engage," said U.S. Sen. Lisa Murkowski, R-Alaska, chair of the Senate energy committee.

The designation would set aside an additional nearly 12.3 million acres as wilderness, including the coastal plain near Alaska's northeast corner, giving it the highest degree of federal protection available to public lands. More than 7 million acres of the refuge currently is managed as wilderness.

The refuge's coastal plain has long been at the center of the struggle between conservationists and advocates of greater energy exploration in the U.S.

Political leaders in Alaska have supported allowing for exploration and production within the coastal plain. They have opposed attempts to further restrict development on federal lands, which comprise about two-thirds of the state, including within the National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska.



Dana Nolan was a promising young TV reporter until a serial killer tried to add her to his victims. Struggling with post-traumatic stress syndrome, plagued by flashbacks and fearsome nightmares, Dana returns to her hometown and instead of peace finds anything but the comfort she expects.

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WORLD

# Russia defiant in face of sanctions threat

By LAURA MILLA  
The Associated Press

MOSCOW — Russian officials struck a defiant note Monday after Western leaders threatened to further punish Moscow for escalated fighting in eastern Ukraine over the weekend.

In televised comments after a meeting with students in St. Petersburg, President Vladimir Putin said that Ukraine's army was at fault for the uptick in violence and accused it of using civilians as "cannon fodder" in the conflict.

There was no fighting in Mariupol on Monday but Donetsk, the main rebel stronghold, was wracked by artillery explosions throughout the day.

Putin's stance was echoed by Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov, who said during a press conference in Moscow that the tragedy in Mariupol was being manipulated to "whip up anti-Russian hysteria" in the West. Lavrov also blamed Kiev for the fighting, and said the rebels were only responding to a government offensive.

"To expect that they (the rebels) would simply reconcile themselves to being bombed would be naive," he said. "They started to act ... with the goal of destroying Ukrainian army positions being used to shell populated areas."

The Russian currency weakened on news of possible Western sanctions early Monday, tumbling by more than 3 percent to 65.7 to the dollar from 63.7. Russia's economy has been hit hard by existing Western sanctions and plummeting oil prices, and the ruble has already lost about half



EVGENIY MALOLETKA/AP

**Workers repair street lights Monday as residents try to restore their houses damaged by Saturday's shelling in the Vostochniy district of Mariupol, Ukraine.**

its value in the past year.

While sanctions are set to expire this summer, President Barack Obama said Sunday that Washington would work with its European partners to "ratchet

up the pressure on Russia" in response to the latest violence. European Union foreign ministers will hold an extraordinary session Thursday to discuss the situation in Ukraine.

and electronic warfare systems," Stoltenberg said. Russia has repeatedly denied such claims.

When it began its invasion of Crimea, which it seized from Ukraine in March, Russia first denied sending in materiel and troops, but later acknowledged it.

The recent escalation in violence raises questions about the larger aims of Moscow in eastern Ukraine.

Security analysts have been speculating for months that Russia may aim to establish a land bridge west to Crimea, which is separated from mainland Russia. When asked whether the recent violence around Mariupol was a sign of such a Russian plan, Stoltenberg declined to speculate on Moscow's strategic aims.

Meanwhile, Stoltenberg said there is no military answer to a crisis that needs a political solution.

"We call on Russia to stop its support for the separatists immediately, to stop destabilizing Ukraine and to respect its international commitments," Stoltenberg said. "We urge all parties to continue all efforts without delay to achieve a peaceful solution, in full conformity with the Minsk agreements."

vandiver:john@stripes.com

At least 5,100 people have been killed in eastern Ukraine since fighting began in April, but violence last week was the most intense since a cease-fire deal was signed in September.

Mariupol, a strategic port city on the Black Sea still controlled by Ukrainian forces, has been a symbolic bulwark against the separatist advance that, if captured by the rebels, would give them a land corridor to Russia-controlled Crimea.

The city had been relatively quiet for months before Saturday's attack.

The Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe's monitoring mission in east Ukraine has said the Grad and Uragan rockets that hit Mariupol were fired from areas under

rebel control.

Separatist leaders initially announced that they had begun an offensive on the city, but quickly backtracked and blamed Ukraine for the carnage after the extent of civilian casualties became known.

A road leading out of the city into rebel territory was closed off by Ukrainian forces Monday, making it unclear whether the rebels had advanced closer to the city outskirts. The city streets were quiet as the families of those killed Sunday gathered to bury their dead.

Ukrainian armed forces spokesman Vladislav Selenzynov said seven soldiers had been killed and 24 others wounded in the recent fighting. He said 184 soldiers were in rebel captivity.

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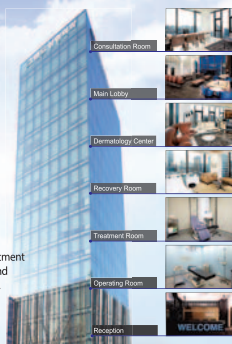
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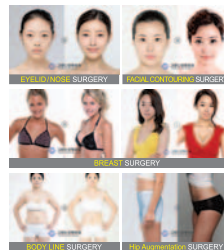
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## WORLD



VIRGINIA MAYO/AP

European Commissioner for Economic and Financial Affairs Pierre Moscovici, right, speaks with the media as he arrives for a meeting at the European Union Council building in Brussels on Monday.

# Eurozone compromise likely after Greek vote

By RAFA CASERT  
AND PAN PYLAS  
The Associated Press

**BRUSSELS** — The stunning election in Greece of a radical anti-austerity party raises new uncertainties for the eurozone, but the initial impression is that a compromise deal over the country's debt can be forged to avert a chaotic exit from the euro.

Financial markets on Monday took in stride the victory of the left-wing Syriza party after several leaders in the 19-country eurozone suggested they were open to discussing how to lighten the massive rescue loans Greece owes them.

The talks are expected to be tough and protracted, however, as regional heavyweight Germany has so far taken a hard line on debt in Europe.

Syriza is calling for an easing in the austerity policies required in Greece's bailout program and a lightening of the country's debt mountain. The debt is at levels many economists think is unsustainable and largely consists of rescue loans owed to fellow eurozone countries.

Some fear a tough stance by either side could lead Greece out of the euro, a development that would cause huge uncertainty for Europe and the euro.

Syriza leader Alexis Tsipras joined with the small right-wing Independent Greeks party, united mostly in their opposition to the austerity measures imposed by the other eurozone nations in exchange for the loans. The tough spending cuts and tax increases were meant to reduce debt but have also put the economy through a depression, causing unemployment and poverty to surge.

The two Greek parties now face the task of extracting concessions

## Greece's Syriza party prevails

The Associated Press

**ATHENS**, Greece — Greece's Syriza party gained the key backing needed to form a government Monday, creating a surprise alliance with a small right-wing party that signals possible confrontation over the country's bailout.

Although the alliance between two ideologically opposed parties who share only their opposition to the bailout was a surprise, it nevertheless boosted stock markets across Europe that had fallen on news of the uncertain election results and fear of a second election. Stocks had fallen as much as 4 percent in Athens on Monday morning.

The right-wing Independent Greeks party said it would back Syriza leader Alexis Tsipras to be the next prime minister, after he fell just short of the majority needed to govern alone following Sunday's poll.



Tsipras

Minister Alexis Tsipras," Independent Greeks leader Panos Kammenos said — without clarifying whether he would join a coalition with Tsipras or give support to a minority government.

With 99.8 percent of the vote counted, Syriza had 149 seats in the 300-member parliament with 36.3 percent of the vote. The ruling conservative coalition was on 27.8 percent, and the extreme right Golden Dawn party in third place with 6.28 percent.

from the rest of the eurozone.

Already on Monday, there was more than one hesitantly outstretched hand.

French President Francois Hollande, a fellow socialist leader sharing budgetary problems, said he would cooperate with Tsipras "in the service of the growth and stability in the euro area, in the spirit of progress that solidarity and responsibility at the heart of European values we share."

Even the leader of Finland, a country that has long been among the most unmovable on austerity issues, offered help.

Finnish Prime Minister Al-

exander Stubb said that even if he opposes forgiving Greece's debts outright, he would be prepared to discuss extending loan repayments.

Belgium's finance minister also said there was some room to discuss the "modalities" to ease the Greek debt program.

But Germany, the powerbroker in the eurozone and long a staunch opponent of relaxing debt conditions within the eurozone, kept a tough line.

"The commitments that Greece has made need to be kept," said Steffen Seibert, the spokesman for Chancellor Angela Merkel.

# Officials: Mubarak sons are released

By HANZA HENDAWI  
AND SARAH EL DEEB  
The Associated Press

**CAIRO** — The two sons of ousted Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak were released from prison Monday, nearly four years after they were first arrested along with their father, authorities said.

Security officials said the two — wealthy businessman Alaa and Mubarak's one-time heir apparent, Gamal — walked free from Torah Prison in a southern Cairo suburb shortly after daybreak and headed to their respective homes in the capital's upscale Heliopolis suburb.

The two, along with their father, still face a retrial on corruption charges. Separately, the two sons also face trial on insider trading charges. They had been stepped out of other charges.

Mubarak, 86 and ailing, stepped down in February 2011 in the face of a popular uprising. He and his two sons were arrested in April that year. Mubarak remains at a military hospital in a southern suburb of Cairo although there are no longer any legal grounds for his detention.

The security officials spoke on condition of anonymity as they weren't authorized to speak to journalists.

The release of the two had been expected since a Cairo court ordered their release on bail Thursday.

The Mubarak sons were sentenced to four years in prison on charges of using state funds to renovate family residences. Their father got three years in the case. The sentences were overturned

earlier this month.

Mubarak was sentenced to life in prison in 2012 for failing to prevent the killing of some 900 protesters during the 18-day uprising against his rule. That verdict also was overturned on appeal. He was retried but the case was dismissed last month on a technicality.

Mubarak's sons walked free a day after deadly clashes between anti-government protesters and police marked the fourth anniversary of the uprising that ended their father's 29-year rule. That violence Sunday left at least 23 people dead, including three men authorities said died planting bombs and three police officers, and wounded 97, the Health Ministry reported.

The two, particularly Gamal, are viewed by many Egyptians as among the pillars of an authoritarian and corrupt administration that struck an alliance with mega-wealthy businessmen at the expense of the nation's poor and disadvantaged.

Mubarak was widely believed to have been grooming Gamal to succeed him. The two denied that, but the perceived succession plan, along with corruption, police brutality and poverty, were among the main causes of the 2011 uprising.

The release of the two sons could spark further protests and would certainly fuel the notion among the secular and liberal activists behind the 2011 uprising that the Mubarak regime has been making a comeback since President Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi, a general-turned-politician, took office in June.



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## WORLD

## At least 43 police killed in fierce Philippine fight

MANILA, Philippines — At least 43 Philippine police commandos were killed in a fierce battle with Muslim guerrillas after launching an assault in which they may have killed one of Southeast Asia's most-wanted terrorists, officials said Monday.

The clash Sunday may have resulted from the commandos' failure to follow the terms of a cease-fire with the guerrillas by notifying them of their presence in the area, a rebel leader said.

Interior Secretary Mar Roxas called the commandos "fallen heroes" who sacrificed their lives to try to capture Malaysian bombing suspect Zulkifli bin Hir, or Marwan. Marwan may have been killed by the commandos, and efforts were underway to confirm that suspicion, he said.

## 26 years sought for captain of Concordia

ROME — Prosecutors have asked a court to convict the captain of the Costa Concordia and sentence him to 26 years in prison for the 2012 shipwreck off Tuscany that killed 32 people.

Prosecutor Maria Navarro made the request Monday, saying the trial has proven that Capt. Francesco Schettino "thought only and always about himself."

Schettino is being tried for manslaughter, causing the shipwreck and abandoning the Concordia while many passengers and crewmembers were still aboard. He has said he saved lives by steering the liner toward shore after it ran aground on rocks that weren't on his charts.

## 2 suspected looters killed in South Africa

JOHANNESBURG — Two suspected looters in South Africa were fatally shot following a week of attacks on immigrant-owned shops in the Johannesburg area, police said Monday.

The slain men were part of a group that allegedly went to loot a Somali-owned shop in Langlaagte, south of Johannesburg city, on Sunday night, the South African Press Association quoted police Lt. Gen. Solomon Makgale as saying. It was not immediately clear who fired the shots that killed the men.

## Doctor convicted of mutilation in Egypt

CAIRO — An Egyptian lawyer says an appeals court convicted a doctor of manslaughter and performing a female genital mutilation that killed a 13-year-old girl, sentencing him to two years and three months in prison.

Lawyer Reda al-Danbouki said the verdict Monday was "a triumph for women" and for Sohair el-Batea, who died in 2013. An earlier court had initially acquitted the doctor in a landmark trial.

Rights advocates said the court's decision could serve as a deterrent for doctors' families. Female genital mutilation was criminalized in 2008 but remains widespread in Egypt.

From The Associated Press



President Barack Obama and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi wave to the crowd at the end of India's annual Republic Day parade in New Delhi on Monday.

## Obama attends India's Republic Day festivities

BY JULIE PACE  
AND MUNEEZA NAQVI  
The Associated Press

NEW DELHI — President Barack Obama on Monday took part in a grand display of Indian military hardware, marching bands and elaborately dressed camels, becoming the first American leader to be honored as chief guest at India's annual Republic Day festivities.

The crowd erupted in cheers as Obama, along with first lady Michelle Obama, emerged from his armored limousine and took his place on the rain-soaked parade route in the capital of New Delhi. The parade was the centerpiece of Obama's three-day visit to India, which is aimed at strengthening a relationship between the world's largest democracies that has at times been fraught with tension and suspicion.

Obama's attendance at the Republic Day celebrations was unlike any other event he has participated in during his overseas travel as president. He spent about two hours on an outdoor viewing platform, an unusual amount of time given Secret Service security concerns. Obama nodded in approval as Indian tanks and rocket launchers, some of them Russian-made, rolled down the parade route and air force jets sped by overhead.

Republic Day marks the anniversary of India's democratic constitution taking force in 1950. Beyond the show of military



Tanks move along the parade route. Obama was the chief guest for this year's parade.

power, the parade included ornate floats highlighting India's cultural diversity. Obama gave a thumbs-up to the acrobatic balancing act of several groups of men on motorbikes, while Michelle Obama smiled broadly at a dance performance by young children.

Following the parade, the Obamas were to attend a reception with dignitaries at Rashtrapati Bhawan, the sprawling presidential palace.

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi's invitation for Obama to attend the parade surprised White House officials. After some internal deliberation, Obama ultimately decided to attend and has sought to use the visit to turn his burgeoning personal friendship with Modi

into policy breakthroughs.

U.S. officials have welcomed Modi's efforts to forge deeper ties with Washington, despite his own difficult history with the U.S. Modi was denied a visa to visit the U.S. in 2005, three years after religious riots killed more than 1,000 Muslims in the Indian state where he was the top elected official.

Officials in both countries say Obama and Modi developed an easy chemistry when they first met in Washington last fall.

Obama was to close the visit Tuesday with a speech to young people. He had planned to tour the Taj Mahal, but scrapped that stop and instead will go to Saudi Arabia to pay respects to the royal family following King Abdullah's death.

## Wife of Indian PM still hopes he will call

By ANNIE GOWEN  
The Washington Post

NEW DELHI — She's waiting for him, as she has been all her life. But when Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi dined with Barack and Michelle Obama at a glittering banquet Sunday night, his wife wasn't by his side.

Modi, 64, kept his teenage marriage a secret for decades during his political ascent and only last year admitted that his wife exists.

The wife, Jashodaben Chimanlal Modi, is a retired teacher who lives in a small town in Modi's home state of Gujarat. Though she had not heard from her husband in years, she says she still hopes to join him one day in the capital as his spouse.

"If he calls me, I will go," she said in an interview. "I hear all his speeches on TV. I feel very good when I hear him speak. I want him to fulfill all his promises to the people. That's my prayer to God."

Narendra Modi, the son of a man who sold tea in a railway station, comes from a lower caste called Ghanchi. He and his wife were promised to each other as children, in keeping with the traditions of their community. They were married in a small ceremony when she was 17 and he was 18.

"He was very young," said Nilanjan Mukhopadhyay, the author of the book "Narendra Modi: The Man, the Times." "The exact nature of the ceremony we don't know. Nobody who has spoken about it is willing to talk. ... The family said that the two of them never cohabited."

Child marriage was and remains common in India, although it is technically illegal. More than a third of the women who married as child brides live in India, an estimated 240 million, according to the U.N. Children's Fund.

Narendra Modi left shortly thereafter to wander in the Himalayas with little more than a change of clothing in his rucksack, Mukhopadhyay said. A devout Hindu, Modi was contemplating religious life. Instead, he returned to Gujarat and became a volunteer, or "pracharak," in the Rashtriya Swamistik Sangh, or R.S.S., a Hindu nationalist group. The young workers, pracharaks, are discouraged from marrying or having children.

"He joined R.S.S. without divulging he had been married," Mukhopadhyay said. "Without it he could not have become a pracharak. They had to be unmarried. Questions would have been asked."

Modi never returned to his wife but never divorced her, even as he became the high-profile chief minister of Gujarat and, last year, India's premier. He never publicly spoke of his wife, and journalists who sniffed around on the topic as Modi's fame grew were privately discouraged from doing so.

# WORLD



AP photos

A picture taken just after liberation by the Soviet army shows a group of children wearing concentration camp uniforms behind barbed wire fencing in the Auschwitz Nazi concentration camp. Tuesday is the 70th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz on Jan. 27, 1945.

## Auschwitz memories live as survivors slowly pass

By ANTHONY FAIOLA  
The Washington Post

There are fewer and fewer of those who still remember.

The Russian army entered Auschwitz, the network of extermination camps operated by Nazi Germany in occupied Poland, on Jan. 27, 1945, liberating the most notorious site of the Holocaust.

In the decades since, groups of survivors have gathered to honor that day, including an annual remembrance at Auschwitz itself. This year, they mark the 70th anniversary of liberation on Tuesday — a day that, for a significant portion of remaining survivors, may be the last major remembrance of their lifetimes.

The numbers tell the story. A decade ago, 1,500 survivors traveled to Auschwitz in southern Poland to mark the 60th anniversary. This year, organizers are expecting 300 or so.

"This is the last big one for many of the survivors," said Ronald Lauder, billionaire philanthropist and president of the World Jewish Congress, which is financing the travel expenses for more than 100 survivors. "By the time we reach the 75th anniversary, there may be almost no survivors left. But they are coming now, because they want to bear witness, to stand there and say, 'We outlasted Hitler. We made it.'"

The survivors partly carry a legacy of horror, memories of the brutality of a labor prison that, by September of 1941, became an assembly line of death where more



Three Auschwitz prisoners, right, talk with Soviet soldiers after the Nazi concentration camp Auschwitz, in Poland, was liberated by the Russians in 1945.

than 1 million would perish at the hands of the Third Reich.

The vast majority of the victims were the Jews of Europe, subjected to Adolf Hitler's "Final Solution." But others also deemed outside the racial and ideological lines of the Nazis also died. Ethnic Roma. Homosexuals. Jehovah's Witnesses. Polish prisoners of war.

The survivors carry another legacy as well, one even more relevant — the power of human will to persevere. Their recollections come amid what for some is a new period of uncertainty.

In France — home of survivor Raphael Esrail, 89 — the anniversary comes just weeks after a terrorist assault on a kosher grocery store in Paris in which four

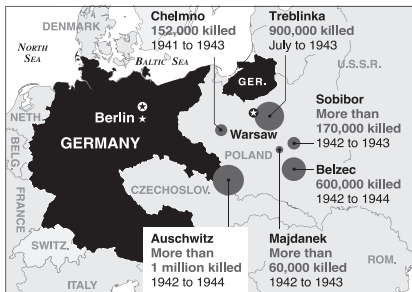
people lost their lives.

In Israel, Marta Wise, an 80-year-old survivor, sees little cause for optimism in her adopted home or elsewhere. And in the United States, survivor Anna Ornstein, 87, a psychoanalyst who has spent a lifetime treating children in trauma, says humanity has not learned from the Holocaust, as genocide has continued in many parts of the world.

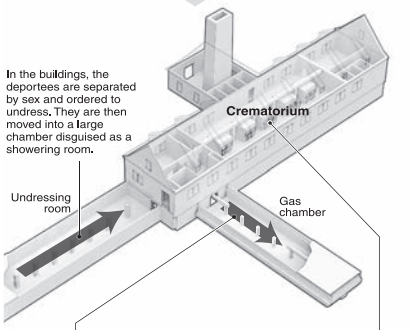
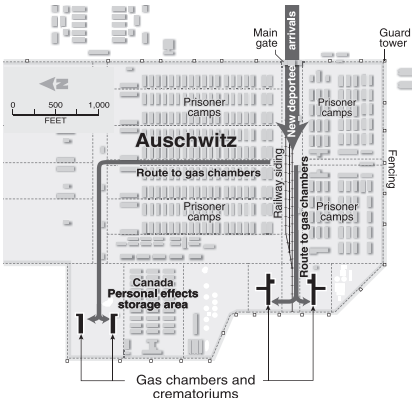
For Hermann Hreiner, 81, a Roma survivor who now lives outside of Munich, the anniversary comes as concern is growing about the modern treatment of Roma people across Europe. "I would like to think that things have changed 70 years later," Hreiner said. "But there is still discrimination."

## Murder on an industrial scale

During World War II, Nazis implemented the systematic mass murder of European Jews, Gypsies, Slavs and other groups because of their perceived racial inferiority. Millions were killed in six primary extermination camps. The largest was Auschwitz.



Upon their arrival at Auschwitz, deportees disembark and their luggage is seized and moved to a section called "Canada," where their valuables will be sorted for use by the Nazis. Some arrivals are selected to become slave laborers. All others are ordered to one of four buildings in the rear of the camp to ostensibly receive showers.



Once inside, the doors are locked and canisters of Zyklon B poison gas are dropped into what is actually a gas chamber. In a matter of minutes, all in the chamber are killed.

Auschwitz slave laborers move the dead to the crematorium and clean the gas chamber for the next round of victims. Valuables such as wedding rings, earrings and gold teeth are removed before the bodies are cremated.

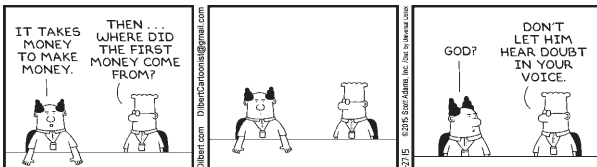
SOURCES: U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum; Robert Jan van Pelt, The Case for Auschwitz: Evidence from the Irving Trial, Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany

GENE THORP, ALBERTO QUADRA/The Washington Post

Frazz



Dilbert



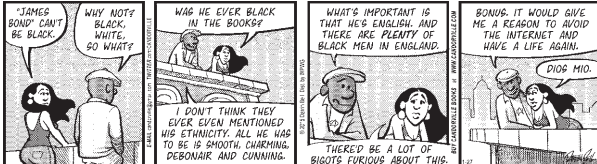
Pearls Before Swine



Non Sequitur



Candorville



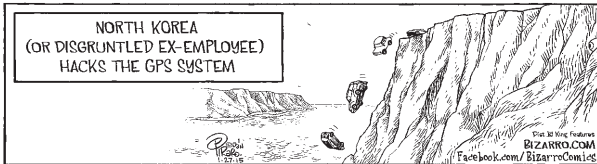
Get Fuzzy



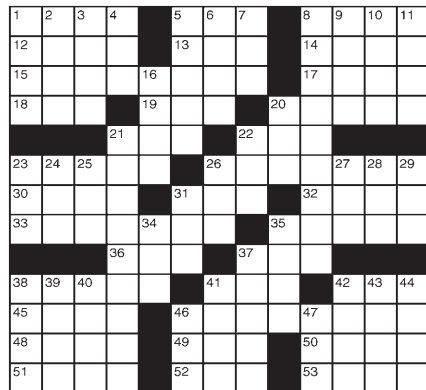
Beetle Bailey



Bizarro



# Eugene Sheffer Crossword



## ACROSS

- 1 On the rocks
- 5 Bill and —
- 8 Grand tale
- 12 Old fogey
- 13 Sprinted
- 14 Old Italian money
- 15 Become too thin
- 17 "Once — a time ..."
- 18 Muppet eagle
- 19 To the — degree
- 20 Portion of an act
- 21 — out a living
- 22 Hawaiian garland
- 23 Festive
- 26 Is curious (about)
- 30 Neighborhood
- 31 Upper limit
- 32 Chills and fever
- 33 Equestrians' seats
- 35 Rock
- 36 Author Fleming
- 37 "Holy cow!"
- 38 Remove feathers
- 41 Have a bug
- 42 Foundation
- 45 Santa —, Calif.
- 46 Assess
- 48 Help on the sly
- 49 X rating?
- 50 Imperfection
- 51 Days gone by
- 52 Illustrations
- 53 Unctuous

## DOWN

- 1 Mid-March date
- 2 Prolonged sleep
- 3 Dutch cheese
- 4 Grumpy com-panion?
- 5 Wooden box
- 6 Solemn promise
- 7 Inseparable
- 8 Explain fully
- 9 Prop for Sherlock
- 10 Press
- 11 Christmas candy, maybe
- 16 Black
- 20 D.C. honorific
- 21 Wipe out
- 22 Bagel topper
- 23 More, to Manuela
- 24 Historic period
- 25 Roulette bet
- 26 Existed
- 27 Id counterpart
- 28 Do a marathon
- 29 Get a glimpse of
- 31 Chaps
- 34 "Mighty — a Rose"
- 35 Vend
- 37 "Jack and the Beanstalk" antagonist
- 38 Implore
- 39 Timber wolf
- 40 Addict
- 41 State with cer-tainty
- 42 Island near Java
- 43 List-shortening abbr.
- 44 Moist in the morn
- 46 Greek H
- 47 Venusian vessel?

## Answer to Previous Puzzle



1-27

## CRYPTOQUIP

C NOW AUQ WRR VOKWGOKK  
UIJ UINQV ASOI C'T UJTCWVOJ  
WR U SRKYCWUG. C'T UI

CTYUWCOIW CI-YUWCOIW.

Yesterday's Cryptquip: NAME FOR ONE OF THE TWELVE APOSTLES WHO LAVISHED GREAT LOVE ON PEOPLE: DUTING THOMAS.

Today's Cryptquip Clue: I equals N



## BUSINESS/WEATHER

## Survey: Firms upbeat on hiring, wages

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Rising sales helped boost hiring at U.S. businesses in the last three months of 2014, and companies are optimistic that continued improvement in business conditions will bring increased employment and wages in the current quarter, a new survey shows.

Many businesses expect the steep drop in oil prices in recent months to have a positive impact on them this year, according to the survey released Monday by the National Association for Business Economics.

Fifty-four percent of the 93 respondents to the quarterly survey said sales at their companies increased in the October-December period. That was up from 49 percent in the third quarter. As sales picked up, so did hiring. Thirty-four percent of companies reporting said they hired more workers during the fourth quarter, about the same as in the second and third quarters.

Businesses said the outlook

**‘There are strong expectations for the first quarter, especially for jobs and wages.’**

**NABE President John Silva**  
chief economist for Wells Fargo Securities

for the January-March period is strong. Fifty-one percent of respondents said they expect wages and salaries to increase at their companies — up sharply from 34 percent in the fourth-quarter survey. Thirty-six percent said they expect their companies to hire more workers, up from 31 percent previously.

Finance, insurance and real estate companies were most likely to say they expect employment increases, at 52 percent; transportation, utilities and communi-

cations firms were the least likely, at 15 percent. Only 7 percent of respondents expect employment declines at their companies in the first quarter.

“Business conditions continued to improve in the fourth quarter of 2014,” NABE President John Silva, the chief economist for Wells Fargo Securities, said in a statement. “There are strong expectations for the first quarter, especially for jobs and wages. Moreover, price and cost pressures appear to be subdued.”

There was a sharp decline in the number of companies reporting they raised prices in the October-December period, to 16 percent from 25 percent in both the second and third quarters. Higher prices were reported most frequently by respondents from the transportation, utilities and communications sector, at 25 percent. Nearly two-thirds of respondents — 65 percent — expected no change in the prices their companies will charge in the first quarter, close to 66 percent in the

fourth-quarter survey.

The drop in oil prices was the financial shocker of 2014. In the first half of the year, the oil market looked just as it had the year before — and the two years before that. Crude oil was more than \$100 a barrel and drivers in the U.S. were paying about \$3.50 per gallon for gasoline. Now oil is around \$45 per barrel and the average gas price is \$2.07 per gallon.

Fifty-seven percent of respondents in the NABE survey indicated that tumbling oil prices would be positive to some extent for their businesses this year, while only 18 percent said they could have a negative impact. The decline is expected to benefit the manufacturing sector to a larger extent than others.

The survey, conducted between Dec. 15 and Jan. 8, is intended to gauge business conditions at NABE members’ companies or industries. Forty-three percent of the respondents were from companies with more than 1,000 employees.

## EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates	
Euro costs (Jan. 27)	\$1.1550
Dollar buys (Jan. 27)	80.8658
British pound (Jan. 27)	\$1.54
Japanese yen (Jan. 27)	115.00
South Korean won (Jan. 27)	1,053.00

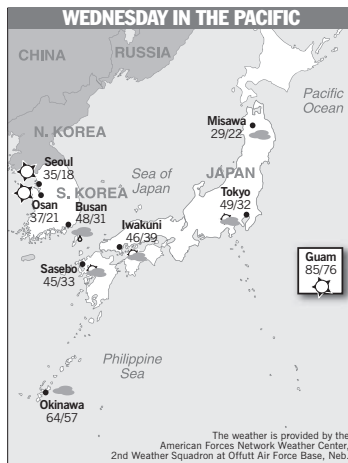
Commercial rates	
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3770
British pound	\$1.5053/£6643
Canada (Dollar)	1.2428
China (Yuan)	6.2517
Denmark (Krone)	6.6028
Egypt (Pound)	7.4425
Hong Kong (Dollar)	\$1.1278/¥9857
Hungary (Forint)	275.81
Israel (Sheqel)	1.9854
Japan (Yen)	118.26
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.2951
Norway (Krone)	7.7531
Philippines (Peso)	44.06
Poland (Zloty)	3.14
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7574
Singapore (Dollar)	1.3433
South Korea (Won)	1,081.04
Switzerland (Franc)	0.8944
Thailand (Baht)	32.54
Turkey (Lira)	2.3488

(Military exchange rates are those available to customers at military banking facilities in the country of issuance for Japan, South Korea, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. For purchasing British pounds in Germany), check with your local military banking facility. Commercial rates are interbank rates provided for reference when buying currency. All figures are in U.S. dollars to one dollar, except for the British pound, which is presented in dollars to pound, and the euro, which is dollars-to-euro.)

## INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	3.25
3-month bill	0.12
6-month bill	0.12
1-year bill	0.13
30-year bond	2.44

## WEATHER OUTLOOK



## Tuesday's US temperatures

City	Hi	Lo	Wthr	City	Hi	Lo	Wthr	City	Hi	Lo	Wthr	City	Hi	Lo	Wthr
Ablene, Tex	76	48	Cir	Chatanooga	47	28	Cir	Fort Wayne	25	14	Cir	Louisville	39	21	Cir
Akron, Ohio	22	5	Snow	Chicago	68	40	Cir	Fresno	57	46	Cir	Lubbock	68	42	PCldy
Albany, N.Y.	21	11	Snow	Cincinnati	31	21	Cir	Goodland	74	40	Cir	Macomb	54	31	PCldy
Albuquerque	58	36	PCldy	Cleveland	23	6	Snow	Grand Junction	49	31	Cir	Madison	32	19	Cir
Allentown, Pa.	30	12	Snow	Colorado Springs	65	35	PCldy	Great Falls	57	34	PCldy	Memphis	53	33	PCldy
Amarillo	70	44	PCldy	Columbia, S.C.	53	28	PCldy	Green Bay	31	17	Cir	Miami Beach	69	55	Cir
Anchorage	8	-2	Snow	Columbus, Ga.	55	33	PCldy	Greensboro, N.C.	41	24	Cir	Midland-Odessa	71	44	Cir
Asheville	38	25	Cir	Columbus, Ohio	25	13	Cir	Hartford	33	17	Cir	Minneapolis	31	21	Cir
Atlanta	49	31	PCldy	Concord, N.H.	18	11	Snow	Hartford Spring	54	28	PCldy	Mpls-St. Paul	36	28	PCldy
Atlantic City	35	16	Snow	Corpus Christi	75	51	Cir	Helena	54	28	PCldy	Missoula	39	28	PCldy
Austin	68	47	Cir	Dallas-Ft. Worth	74	49	Cir	Honolulu	64	40	Cir	Moline	64	40	Cir
Baltimore	35	20	Cir	Dayton	25	14	Cir	Houston	74	46	Cir	Montgomery	60	34	Cir
Baton Rouge	67	41	Cir	Daytona Beach	64	40	Cir	Huntsville	47	31	PCldy	Nashville	43	28	Snow
Bilings	64	38	Cir	Denver	69	36	PCldy	Indianapolis	37	19	Cir	New Orleans	65	45	Cir
Birmingham	52	32	PCldy	Des Moines	46	32	Cir	Jackson, Miss.	56	36	Cir	New York City	24	19	Snow
Bismarck	51	28	Cir	Detroit	24	10	PCldy	Jacksonville	58	37	Cir	Newark	28	18	Snow
Boise	45	33	Cir	Duluth	32	19	PCldy	Juneau	33	24	PCldy	Norfolk, Va.	38	28	Cir
Boston	23	17	Snow	El Paso	66	41	PCldy	Kansas City	56	37	Cir	North Platte	69	30	Cir
Bridgeport	24	13	Snow	Elkins	24	14	Snow	Key West	62	34	PCldy	Oklahoma City	72	45	Cir
Brownsville	76	56	Cir	Erie	23	5	Cir	Knoxville	41	22	Snow	Omaha	53	33	Cir
Buffalo	19	6	Cir	Eugene	52	43	Cir	Lake Charles	71	46	Cir	Orlando	65	42	Cir
Burlington, Vt.	14	26	Cir	Evansville	41	26	Cir	Lansing	54	37	Cir	Paduach	35	27	Cir
Caribou, Maine	11	5	Snow	Fairbanks	24	-35	Cir	Las Vegas	63	45	Cir	Pendleton	48	39	Cir
Casler, N.J.	54	34	PCldy	Fargo	37	27	PCldy	Lexington	34	17	Cir	Penn.	34	17	Cir
Charleston, S.C.	52	33	Cir	Flagstaff	50	28	Rain	Lincoln	58	33	Cir	Philadelphia	34	17	Snow
Charleston, W.Va.	30	20	Cir	Flint	26	7	Cir	Little Rock	64	35	Cir	Phoenix	74	55	Cir
Charlotte, N.C.	46	26	PCldy	Fort Smith	69	41	Cir	Los Angeles	69	51	Cir	Pittsburgh	24	8	Cir

National temperature extremes  
Hi: Sun., 87, Death Valley, Calif.  
Lo: Sun., -14, Saint Ste Marie, Mich.

## SHIFTING GEARS

## Innovation, optimism at Detroit auto show

By DEE-ANN DURBIN  
AND TOM KRISHER  
The Associated Press

DETROIT — The mood is exuberant at this year's North American International Auto Show. Automakers are flush with profits and the show gleams with performance cars, beefy trucks and exciting experiments from plug-in hybrids to cars carved by a 3-D printer. Here are some key takeaways from the show.

### Optimism

The U.S. economy is rejuvenated. Interest rates are low and auto financing is readily available. Carmakers have lots of new offerings with cool features. And gas prices are at a five-year low.

"I'm always looking for the black swan, to be prepared," said Mike Jackson, CEO of the AutoNation dealership chain. "And I'm looking at 2015 and saying, 'I can't even find a baby black swan.' I have never seen better conditions for the auto industry and the U.S. market."

Conditions are good for buyers as well. U.S. sales could start to plateau this year as they approach the record of 17.3 million. That could prompt automakers to offer deals, particularly on small and midsize cars.

Even record recalls that involved 60 million cars and trucks in the U.S. last year seem to have faded in consumers' minds. General Motors, which accounted for half the total, saw U.S. sales climb 5 percent in 2014.



PAUL SANCYA/AP

Media surround the Acura NSX at its debut during media previews for the North American International Auto Show in Detroit on Jan. 12. The NSX, due in showrooms this summer, is expected to cost around \$150,000.



**Halo cars**

The health of the car industry can be measured by the number of growling, preening performance cars on the show floor. Ford revealed its 600-horsepower GT while Acura showed off its NSX hybrid supercar. Cadillac, BMW, Mercedes, Lexus and Porsche introduced new performance vehicles.

Automakers kept these cars under wraps until the economy improved and buyers had more disposable income. The NSX, due in showrooms this summer, is expected to cost around \$150,000.

"You didn't see these kinds of cars produced during the recession," said Karl Brauer, a senior analyst with Kelley Blue Book. "They're not about being conservative or subtle."

Even with small sales, halo cars cast a glow of technical and design know-how over an entire brand. Ford's GT, for example, is

powered by one of the company's EcoBoost V6 engines, not a bigger V8. Ford hopes that shows buyers that an EcoBoost engine has enough power for their own pickup or SUV.

### Gas

Gasoline is averaging \$2.10 per gallon, \$1.20 below a year ago. Cheaper gas gives consumers more money to spend on other things — like cars. And it has helped fuel a truck and SUV boom that benefits Detroit automakers the most. According to the car-shopping site Edmunds.com, SUVs and pickups outsold cars in 2014 for the first time in a decade.

The Jeep brand, which sells only SUVs, saw a 41 percent U.S. sales jump last year.

"I think we all notice it's a lot less money to fill up your vehicle. That helps with a better sentiment and outlook," Jeep CEO Mike Manley said.

It's tougher to sell green vehicles. If efficiency doesn't sell, the auto industry could have trouble meeting government gas mileage requirements that reach a fleet average of 54.5 miles per gallon in 2025.

Several executives said the government may have to ease off on the requirements. But the incoming head of the National Highway Traffic Safety Admin-

istration, which administers the requirements, said that's unlikely.



Chevrolet Bolt concept

### Alternative fuels

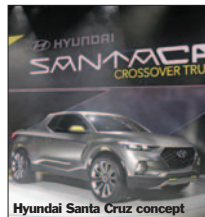
Despite the tough sales environment for green cars, automakers are pressing ahead. Chevrolet surprised with the Bolt concept, an electric car with a 200-mile range that could go on sale by 2017. It's also showing an updated Volt plug-in hybrid. Hyundai introduced hybrid and plug-in hybrid versions of the Sonata sedan. Audi revealed a diesel-fueled, plug-in hybrid version of its Q7 SUV. Honda has a hydrogen fuel cell concept that's expected to go on sale in the U.S. in 2016.

Fiat Chrysler Automobiles CEO Sergio Marchionne said automakers have to assume that stricter fuel economy standards — both here and abroad — will go into effect even if gas prices stay low for a prolonged period.

### Innovation

The recession damped experimentation, but it's back. Hyundai's Santa Cruz concept is a five-seat crossover with a small pickup bed in the back. If people like it, Hyundai could put it on the road in three years.

Honda demonstrated its Uni-Cub, a Segway-like vehicle that lets the user sit down. China's Guangzhou Automobile Group is showing the WitStar, a hybrid, semi-autonomous SUV with a bubbling fish tank in the rear armrest. Phoenix-based Local Motors has a big 3-D printer on the show floor that's cutting out the Strati, a two-seater with a body made from carbon fiber-infused plastic.



Hyundai Santa Cruz concept

It's not the stuff of fantasy, said Jim O'Sullivan, Mazda's North American CEO.

"There's a lot more substance out there," he said. "A lot of stuff years ago was very cosmetic."

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# AMERICAN ROUNDUP

## Pair seek to keep bear amid permit tangle

**OH** LODI — A northeast Ohio couple accused of not having a permit for their long-time pet bear say they weren't properly notified of a 2012 change in the law and don't want to turn over the animal to the state as requested.

WKYC-TV reported that Jeff Gillium, of Lodi, has had the male bear named Archie for three decades and had permits until 2013. A recent letter from the Department of Agriculture says Gillium and his wife must provide a permit, move the bear out of Ohio or surrender him to be tranquilized and relocated by the state.

The couple say they want to renew their permits and were told it was unnecessary. Now, the window has passed.

The department is checking whether the Gilliums were notified of the updated requirements.

## Driver injured by flying wheel on highway

**MA** WAYLAND — State police said a man is recovering in the hospital after his car was struck by a runaway tire that had come loose from another vehicle on the Massachusetts Turnpike.

Police said Paul Robillard, 36, of Dudley, was driving west on the highway in Wayland about 6:30 p.m. Thursday when his vehicle's windshield was struck by a rim and tire that had come loose from an eastbound car. The windshield was struck on the driver's side and the car's roof suffered a deep dent.

Robillard was taken to Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston with serious injuries.

The wheel came from the left rear of a car driven by Joel Tangier, 23, of London, Ontario, Canada.

The crash remains under investigation and no charges have been filed.

## 'Lazy' ex-postal worker failed to deliver mail

**OR** EUGENE — A former U.S. Postal Service worker who failed to deliver nearly 1,000 pieces of mail has pleaded guilty to misdemeanor mail obstruction and been sentenced to a year of probation.

The Register-Guard reported that Alex Douma, 27, also was ordered Wednesday to pay a \$500 fine. He entered his plea in federal court in Eugene, Ore.

While most of the mail found last summer in two bins on his front porch was junk mail, there were also 27 voter ballots from last May's primary election and more than 200 items of first-class and standard mail.

Douma worked at a post office in Eugene. Court documents say he told investigators that he "just got lazy" and had failed to make his rounds on multiple occasions between late April and early July. He apologized in court and said he had "felt pressured for time" while working in a job that required him to sort, scan and deliver mail.

## THE CENSUS

**\$23K**

The amount of money cashed in counterfeit checks in a scheme for which two Atlanta men received prison terms. Sherron Terry, 37, got 15 months, and Akram H. Muhammad, 37, got two years. Prosecutors said they recruited people at a homeless encampment in Greenville, S.C., gave their recruits clean clothes and took them to banks to carry out the transactions.



COREY PERRINE, NAPLES (FLA.) DAILY NEWS/AP

## Dangling with dad at the dog park

Adam Abadir swings his daughter, Hanna, 2, during the grand opening Saturday at the new Bonita Springs Dog Park in Bonita Springs, Fla. Drones of people came out to have their canines romp through the new fenced play areas, and vendors had booths promoting their dog-centric businesses.

## Backstreet Boy crashes couple's wedding

**FL** MELBOURNE — A Florida couple got the wedding crasher of their dreams: a member of the Backstreet Boys.

Florida Today reported Ryan and A'riell Kastovich were married Saturday in Melbourne. A few months back, the lifelong fans of the group posted a video inviting them to their wedding.

After their first wedding dance, they were surprised by an appearance by the band member known as Howie D, who congratulated the couple and then sang "All I Have to Give."

The couple said the Backstreet Boys played an integral part in their childhoods and ignited the spark that drew them together.

## Sea otter conceived in wild is born in captivity

**CA** SANTA CRUZ — A sea otter impregnated in the wild has given birth at the University of California, Santa Cruz, allowing researchers a rare look at a nursing mother.

The Santa Cruz Sentinel reported Friday that it's the first time a sea otter pup conceived in

the wild was born in captivity.

The pup has been under the watchful eyes of scientists at the school's Long Marine Laboratory since its birth in late November. It will be released in the wild this summer after it weans off its mother's milk.

To avoid having the pup develop an attraction toward humans, researchers limit their interaction, enclosing the pool it shares with its mother behind a fence.

Southern sea otters have been listed as threatened since 1977.

A count last year showed the population has reached about 3,000 off California.

## 'Napoleon Dynamite' bus ends up at school

**ID** BLACKFOOT — A southeast Idaho charter school that purchased a second-hand bus from a public school has discovered it's the same bus used in the 2004 comedy movie "Napoleon Dynamite."

A Blackfoot Charter Community Learning Center bus driver made the connection after recently watching the cult favorite that is an ode to outsiders and spotting a bus that looked familiar.

School transportation director Brian Thein said the Preston School District confirmed it's

the same bus that appears in the movie.

"The kids love riding on it," Thein told the Idaho State Journal, adding that it will continue to be used for that purpose.

The charter school, which often purchases used buses to save money, bought the 1998 Blue Bird TC2000 school bus from Preston School District about 2½ years ago.

"Napoleon Dynamite" — a low-budget, feel-good comedy centered on an awkward teenager played by Jon Heder — has coasted into cult-status.

## Woman mauled by black bear at sanctuary

**FL** DADE CITY — Authorities say a 400-pound black bear mauled a woman's arm at a Tampa Bay area wildlife sanctuary.

The Pasco County Sheriff's Office reported that the bear — named Abner — was in his cage Friday afternoon when the woman reached in to pet him. Deputies and rescue workers responded to the Wildlife Haven Animal Sanctuary in Dade City, and the woman was flown to a Tampa hospital with severe injuries to her right arm.

The sheriff's office confirmed

that the victim was not the owner of the licensed nonprofit organization, but it wasn't immediately clear whether the woman was a worker or a guest of the animal sanctuary.

## Expanded Blackbeard exhibit opens

**NC** BEAUFORT — A newly expanded exhibit about Blackbeard and his ship opened Saturday at the North Carolina Maritime Museum in Beaufort.

The exhibit includes new artifacts from the ship, Queen Anne's Revenge, and a new conservation laboratory.

The new exhibit also includes a laboratory where visitors can view and interact with conservators as they prepare artifacts. Students, museum staff and professional conservators work in the lab.

The expanded exhibit includes modern-day piracy materials and information about how the modern world views Blackbeard and other pirates of his era.

Queen Anne's Revenge ran aground in 1718 in Beaufort. A private company discovered the shipwreck in 1996.

From wire reports



## FACES



Warner Bros. Pictures

# \$200M AND COUNTING

'American Sniper' holds top spot at box office

BY DERRIK J. LANG  
The Associated Press

"American Sniper" hit the mark with moviegoers again. The military drama starring Bradley Cooper as Navy SEAL marksman Chris Kyle topped the box office for a second weekend in a row with \$64.4 million, according to studio estimates Sunday.

"American Sniper" is up for six Academy Awards, including best picture and best actor for Cooper. The total haul for the Warner Bros. film now stands at \$200.1 million. "American Sniper" earned an additional \$17.6 million in 16 international territories, including Australia, Sweden, Norway and Denmark.

"We've never quite seen anything like this at this time of year," said Paul Dergarabedian, senior media analyst at box-office tracker Rentrak. "American Sniper" is helping to propel the box office, which is already 9.3 percent ahead of the same time last year."

The film, directed by Clint Eastwood, already broke box-office records when it expanded to wide release on Jan. 16, easily surpassing "Avatar" to become the biggest January opening for a movie and immediately becoming the top grosser among the best-picture Oscar nominees.

In a distant second place, the saucy Universal thriller "The Boy Next Door" featuring Jennifer Lopez as a teacher who engages in an affair with a younger man played by Ryan Reynolds, debuted with \$15 million.

The weekend's other major new releases weren't even in the neighborhood of "The Boy Next Door."

The animated fantasy "Strange Magic" from Lucasfilm and Disney flopped in seventh place with \$5.5 million.

Lionsgate's Johnny Depp dud "Mortdecai" tanked in ninth place with \$4.1 million.

## 'Birdman' tops SAG Awards

BY JAKE COYLE  
The Associated Press

"Birdman" topped the 21st annual Screen Actors Guild Awards, winning best ensemble cast, even though star Michael Keaton was upset by Eddie Redmayne in the most outstanding actor category.

Julianne Moore, Patricia Arquette and J.K. Simmons cemented their Oscar front-runner status Sunday in a ceremony that often serves as a kind of preview to the Academy Awards.

Keaton led the "Birdman" cast, including Emma Stone, Edward Norton and Zach Galifianakis, in accepting the top honor from the acting guild, calling the profession "the ultimate team sport."

Redmayne, who stars as Stephen Hawking in "The Theory of Everything," was the surprise winner in a category expected to go to Keaton for his career-capping performance as a Hollywood has-been trying to mount a comeback on Broadway. Redmayne dedicated his award to sufferers and victims of ALS.

Moore, considered the Oscar favorite for the best actress, won outstanding female actor for "Still Alice," in which she plays an academic with early-onset Alzheimer's.

Accepting the award for most outstanding supporting actor for his performance as a domineering jazz teacher in "Whiplash," Simmons thanked all 49 actors who appear in the drama.

"Boyhood" star Arquette added to her string of awards, taking the supporting actress honor for her performance, filmed over 12 years.

The Netflix prison series "Orange Is the New Black" scored two



PHOTOS BY VINCE BUCCI, INVISION/AP

Eddie Redmayne, left, and Julianne Moore won the outstanding actor awards for leading film roles at the Screen Actors Guild Awards on Sunday night in Los Angeles. Redmayne portrays Stephen Hawking in "The Theory of Everything." Moore plays an academic with early-onset Alzheimer's in "Still Alice."

wins: best ensemble in a comedy and Uzo Aduba as most outstanding actress in a comedy series.

Best ensemble cast in a drama series went to "Downton Abbey."

Two actors who usually reside on the big screen won the SAG awards for performances in a miniseries or TV movie: Mark Ruffalo (HBO's "The Normal Heart") and Frances McDormand (HBO's "Olive Kitteredge"). Kevin Spacey ("House of Cards"), William H. Macy ("Shameless") and Viola Davis ("How to Get Away With Murder") also collected awards.

Debbie Reynolds, the "Singin' in the Rain" star, was honored with the SAG lifetime achievement award.

### On to the Oscars?

Because actors make up the largest portion of the Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences, the SAG Awards are also considered one of the most telling Oscar previews. Last year, the top four winners — Matthew McConaughey, Cate Blanchett, Lupita Nyong'o and Jared Leto — went on to win Academy Awards after first scooping up SAG awards.

In the past six years, SAG best-ensemble and Academy Award best-picture winners have lined up three times: "Argo," "The King's Speech" and "Slumdog Millionaire." Last year, the actors chose "American Hustle" over eventual Oscar winner "12 Years a Slave."

### Other news

■ "Birdman" received another lift on its flight to the Oscars after winning the Producers Guild of America's highest film award on Jan. 24 at a ceremony in Los Angeles.

The win delivers needed momentum to Alejandro Inarritu's showbiz romp following its upset loss to "The Grand Budapest Hotel" at the Golden Globes' comedy category this month. It's now neck and neck in the Oscar race with Richard Linklater's "Boyhood," which won in the Globes drama category.

Many of the PGA's 6,700 members are also Oscar voters and for the past seven years, the guild's choices for its top trophy went on to win the best-picture prize at the Academy Awards.

Other trophies presented by the guild included "The Lego Movie" for animated feature, "Life Itself" for documentary film, "Fargo" for television movie or miniseries, "Breaking Bad" for TV drama series, "Orange Is the New Black" for TV comedy series and "Comedians in Cars Getting Coffee" for digital series.

■ Pioneering radio and TV host Joe Franklin, who gave breaks to the likes of Al Pacino and Bill Cosby on his variety show long before they became famous and who boasted he never missed a broadcast in decades, has died at age 88.

He died Jan. 24 of cancer, which he had had for a few years, longtime producer and friend Steven Garrin said.

Franklin often is credited with developing the standard TV talk show format, sitting behind a desk while interviewing wannabe celebrities, minor celebrities and the occasional bona fide celebrity.

The host of "The Joe Franklin Show" started in TV in 1950. By the early 1990s, he often said, he had chatted with more than 300,000 guests.

From The Associated Press

### SUNDANCE QUICK QUOTE

'Once (Sundance) started to click and move, ... more and more people came. Pretty soon, I could see that it was becoming, for a lot of people, the place to be at this time and that brought in all ... the ambush marketers who couldn't care less about film, who couldn't care less about Sundance. What was upsetting to me at a certain point was the media — the outside media was beginning to look at the festival and they assumed we were selling out because all these marketers were there which had nothing to do with us. ... You can't get rid of them and that's OK, but as long as we can maintain who we are and have that come through it's all that matters to me.'

— Sundance founder Robert Redford on brands that temporarily set up shop in Park City, Utah, during the film festival

ARTHUR MOLA, INVISION/AP



## WORLD



ANDREW BROWNELL/AP

Britain's Queen Elizabeth II, left, and her husband, Prince Philip, attend the opening of the new Royal Children's Hospital in Melbourne, Australia, in October 2011.

## Australian PM dismisses criticism of his decision to knight Prince Philip

The Associated Press

SYDNEY — Australia's prime minister on Monday dismissed criticism of his decision to make the husband of Queen Elizabeth II an Australian knight, saying Prince Philip has a long history of service Down Under.

Prime Minister Tony Abbott's announcement that the Duke of Edinburgh would be awarded Australia's highest honor came on Australia's national holiday, prompting some to question the wisdom of knighting a British royal on a day meant to commemorate Australians.

"It's a time war where we're giving knighthoods to English royalty," opposition leader Bill Shorten told Fairfax Radio. "On Australia Day, we're talking about Australia, Australian identity."

The government's managed to find a British royal to give a medal to, a knighthood to."

Adam Giles, government head of the Northern Territory, questioned whether he'd confused his holidays.

"I woke up this morning and read the wires, and I thought it was April Fool's Day," he said. "I think it takes away from the legitimacy of the knighthood role. I think it makes a bit of a joke in a range of areas."

Terri Butler, lawmaker with the opposition Labor party, tweeted her own puzzlement: "He didn't really knight a prince, did he?" Despite the criticism, Abbott insisted the prince was a good friend of Australia and, therefore, a good candidate for the nation's knighthood.

"The monarchy has been an important part of Australia's life since 1788," Abbott said. "And Prince Philip has been a great servant of Australia. He's been a great servant of all the countries of the Commonwealth. Here in this country, he's the patron of hundreds of organizations."

The Order of Australia — the nation's official honor system — first introduced categories for knights and dames in 1976, and awarded 14 people those honors until the categories were abolished a decade later. Abbott reinstated them last year.

Former Defense Force chief Angus Houston, who has overseen the search for missing Malaysia Airlines Flight 370 off Australia's west coast, was also knighted on Monday.

## Pair of women extend power of N. Korean leader

By SAM KIM  
Bloomberg News

SEOUL, South Korea — One sports a Christian Dior handbag and favors Western clothes. The other carries a notebook and wears dark uniforms. These fashion opposites are the two most influential women in North Korea.

While Kim Jong Un's wife, Ri Sol Ju, and his younger sister, Kim Yo Jong, are currently allies in sustaining one of the world's most reclusive leaders, their overlapping influence makes them potential rivals in a regime where family ties aren't strong enough to protect against Kim's penchant for purges.

These women of Pyongyang offer insight into an opaque regime that, while struggling to feed its people, is capable of maintaining 1.2 million men under arms and threatening neighbors with nuclear annihilation. Ri commands a growing following among the wives of the North Korean elite, while Kim Yo Jong now holds a senior position in the ruling Workers' Party and serves as an adviser to her brother.

"Uneasiness is inevitable in a relationship like this," Kang Myong Do, a son-in-law of North Korea's former prime minister, Kang Song San, said by phone. "The wife wouldn't like it if her husband got too close to his sister; the sister wouldn't like it if her brother got too close to his wife."

The sister would try to oust Ri if the first lady — a "rag-tag commoner" compared with Kim Yo Jong — sought political power beyond the role of burnishing her husband's public image, said Kang, who now teaches North Korean studies at Kyungmin University near Seoul.

Kim Yo Jong chooses to remain in her brother's shadow at public events, while Ri locks arms with Kim Jong Un. In a photo released Wednesday by the state-run Rodong Sinmun newspaper, Kim Yo Jong hides behind a pole as she watches the back of her brother speaking to people at a shoe factory. Still, Kim Yo Jong "has a lot of control over who has access to her brother, what they say to him, what documents they hand over — in short, she is a combination gatekeeper and traffic cop," said Michael Madden, editor of the North Korea Leadership Watch blog.

She joined her brother in handing out awards to troops at an air force competition in May, and that suggests she commands the party's Organization and Guidance Department, which handles everything from promotions to purges, Cheong Seong Chang, a senior analyst at the Sejong Institute near Seoul, said in an email.

"What we'll need to watch for is whether Ri Sol Ju becomes Queen Bee among the wives, or if that role is assumed by Yo Jong," Madden said.

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Ernie Gates

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## OPINION

## Service academies no longer needed

By SCOTT BEAUCHAMP

Most Americans are familiar with the prestige that surrounds the United States military service academies. Various names and phrases, spoken like solemn incantations, attest to their sacrosanct status: the Point, the Long Gray Line, Annapolis, cadets. Their graduates constitute a who's who of American greatness, including Ulysses Grant, Jimmy Carter, novelist James Salter and sci-fi writer Robert Heinlein, and name only a few. Gen. Douglas MacArthur, in a 1962 address at West Point, typified the veneration that's usually heaped on the academies when he told the cadets that they were "the leaven which binds together the entire fabric of our national system of defense."

The service academies — the U.S. Military Academy for the Army, the U.S. Naval Academy, the U.S. Air Force Academy and the U.S. Coast Guard Academy — promise to educate and mold future officers charged with leading the enlisted members of the military.

But they are not the hallowed arbiters of quality promised by their myths. Their traditions mask bloated government money-sucks that consistently underperform. They are centers of nepotism that turn below-average students into average officers. They are indulgences that taxpayers, who fund them, can no longer afford. They've outlived their use, and it's time to shut them down.

The most compelling and obvious argument is the financial one. It officially costs around \$205,000 to produce a West Point graduate, although a 2002 Government Accountability Office study put the cost at over \$300,000; officers at the Air Force and Naval academies are minted for \$322,000 and \$275,000, respectively. According to at least one measurement, that's about four times as much as it costs to produce an officer through the Reserve Officers' Training Corps, which trains officers-to-be while they attend civilian colleges.

One reason for the expense is that attendance at the academies is free for cadets. In fact, since they're technically members of the armed forces, the students get paid for going to school. As Bruce Fleming, a heretical professor at the Naval Academy, wrote for Salon, they receive "a government-sponsored guarantee of a golden ticket to life: college at taxpayer expense with no student debts, the highest salary of any set of graduates, and guaranteed employment and ... health benefits for at least five years, frequently well beyond."

Perhaps risking your life

in patriotic service merits lavish treatment. During my own Army service, not having to worry about housing or medical care surely allowed me to concentrate on my duties as a soldier. But graduates of the academies, which cover every possible expense for four years, make up only 20 percent of officers serving in the military. The rest are from the ROTC and from Officer Candidate School, which is for college grads and enlisted personnel who want an officer's commission. Are those other officers less deserving of a "golden ticket"?

No, because they are not merely more numerous — they are also equally (or more) effective as officers. No evidence shows that officers who attended civilian colleges, such as one of the U.S. Senior Military Colleges such as the Citadel, are lesser leaders than their service-academy colleagues. Tom Ricks, a Pulitzer Prize-winning defense journalist, put it succinctly: "After covering the U.S. military for nearly two decades, I've concluded that graduates of the service academies don't stand out compared to other officers." After all, perhaps the most pre-eminent Army leader in recent times, Colin Powell, is a product of the ROTC, not West Point.

This parity in skill has been slowly expressing itself in a rising number of promotions for ROTC officers over the past few decades. Thirty years ago, most Army three-star generals had graduated from West Point. As of 1997 (the last year for which data is available), only a third had. A study of naval officer ascension using data from 2003 concluded that, on average, there were no real differences in promotion rates between Naval Academy officers and ROTC officers. Of course, these arguments from statistics can't be definitive, but they do indicate that ROTC officers are able to compete with their peers. Nearly half of the Joint Chiefs of Staff serving over the past decade bypassed the service academies.

These days, too, a little thrift wouldn't hurt. The F-35 fighter jet, the most expensive boondoggle in weapons history, is six years late, has already cost taxpayers nearly \$400 billion and still doesn't work; in the latest budget, Congress allocated \$120 million for M1 Abrams tanks the Army says it doesn't want or need; the Daily Beast recently called the 2016 budget a Christmas present for military contractors. According to the Project on Government Oversight, it includes billions of dollars in spending that the Pentagon didn't need to request.

Former Defense Secretary Robert Gates, himself a nexus of bipartisan consensus, said at the Federal Innovation Summit last summer that "what is needed most of

all are leaders who are prepared to challenge conventional thinking, break crockery, stop doing what doesn't work well or at all, and set a new course." Well, here's our chance.

Some arguments in favor of the service academies cite the rigorous selection process. But we really have no idea how elite their students are. Admittance to a service academy requires a nomination from a member of Congress, a state legislator or a secretary of the respective military branch or other high-level officials. These nominations are doled out in a process with rather vague guidelines and nonspecific criteria, making political patronage inevitable. The academies admit recruits according to Title 10, U.S. Code, Section 6954, which, for guidance, merely says how many cadets can be admitted, who can nominate them and where they can come from. According to an investigation by USA Today, nepotism often governs the nominations, with many going to well-connected families of big-name donors. The process has Fleming has complained in numerous media outlets about the low quality of the students he teaches at the Naval Academy, and he says three Freedom of Information Act requests about the admissions process haven't gotten him any closer to understanding why some students are admitted over others.

Gore Vidal (born at West Point and connected to the institution by heritage) depicted the service academies as loathsome breeding grounds for a permanent military-elite class of "ring knockers," as he wrote in the *New York Review of Books* in 1973. That's exactly why people have been trying to shut the academies down since at least 1830, when folk here and Tennessee congressman Davy Crockett tried to pass a bill abolishing West Point. Another attempt was made in 1863, when Sen. B.F. Wade, R-Ohio, said in the bill's defense, "I do not believe that there is any institution so valuable for the good of the Earth ... any institution that has turned out so many false, ungrateful men as have emanated from this institution."

As an enlisted Army infantryman, I served under platoon leaders who attended both West Point and ROTC. All were competent and professional. But the best graduated from the University of California at Santa Barbara. What made him singular was his bravery and his resourcefulness. He was willing, in small ways, to deviate from standard operating procedure when the situation called for it. He also connected to the enlisted guys in an extraordinary way.

The service academies are institutions with deep roots, but bravery and resourcefulness are eminently more American than any particular school. Our country deserves more leaders like my platoon leader, and we can have them without the financial and social burden of the service academies.

Scott Beauchamp is a veteran and a writer who lives in Portland, Maine. He contributes to the *Baffler*, the *Atlantic* and *AI Jazeera*, among other publications. This column first appeared in the *Washington Post*.

Cadets in the Class of 2015 arrive at the U.S. Military Academy.

MIKE STRASSER  
West Point Public Affairs



## OPINION

## Why consort with dictators to fight terrorism?

By FRED HIATT

The Washington Post

As President Barack Obama stumbles in implementing his own strategy for combating terrorism, the United States is reverting, almost by default, to an earlier, failed approach: a reliance on dictators to do our dirty work.

The latest, and saddest, indication of Obama's capitulation to this oldthink has been signals sent by his administration that the United States will no longer insist on Bashar Assad's departure as leader of Syria, as Michael R. Gordon and Anne Barnard recently reported in *The New York Times*.

Obama's demand that Assad leave was never more than rhetorical. Still, it has to be dispiriting for the president who created the Atrocities Prevention Board ("President Obama has made the prevention of atrocities a key focus of this Administration's foreign policy," a White House fact sheet says) to acknowledge implicitly that he has no Syria strategy without Assad.

Assad is the bloodiest butcher of this young century, but he's hardly the only example of the United States' reborn love of strongmen. Egypt's new dictator has killed and imprisoned opponents with a brazenness Hosni Mubarak never dreamed of. The State Department is eager to embrace him in a new partnership.

Obama used to insist that the government of Bahrain "engage in a dialogue, and you can't have a real dialogue when parts of the peaceful opposition are in jail." Now, as Bahrain cracks down on peaceful dissidents, the United States bars notices.

In Central Asia's Uzbekistan, Islam Karimov, 76, presides over a closed society of prison camps and forced labor. But immediately after he announced he would rule for five more years — after all, he's been in charge only since 1989 — the Unit-

ed States approved a shipment of weaponry for his government and counseled "a certain amount of strategic patience in how change can take place."

From Azerbaijan to Saudi Arabia, where Obama will visit Tuesday, the United States is copying up to dictators who share some key attributes. They agree with the United States that Islamic extremism must be fought. But they also go after nonviolent opponents — and they are most ferocious against secular, liberal critics. By destroying any moderate forces, they can present themselves as the only alternative to religious fundamentalism.

If partnering with these people offered an effective defense against terrorism, maybe it would be worth overcoming any moral qualms. In fact, though, their actions will create more trouble down the road — as Obama himself explained in 2011.

"Societies held together by fear and repression may offer the illusion of stability for a time, but they are built upon fault lines that will eventually tear asunder," the president said.

"[S]trategies of repression and strategies of diversion will not work anymore.... The status quo is not sustainable."

Obama promised a historic shift in policy, away from the short-term comfort of alliances with dictators and toward promoting "self-determination and opportunity."

"After decades of accepting the world as it is in the region, we have a chance to pursue the world as it should be," the president said.

So what happened? The Arab Spring didn't go as hoped — and the United States began to lose the war. An al-Qaida offshoot shockingly conquered large swaths of Iraq and Syria. Libya descended into civil war. Yemen, which Obama cited just last year as proof of his successful strategy, is on a similar downward spiral. The Taliban are gaining ground in Afghanistan. Boko Haram is carving out another space for



In this photo released by Syria's official news agency, SANA, Syrian President Bashar Assad speaks during an interview with a U.S. magazine in Damascus on Monday.

barbarism in Nigeria.

When Obama is questioned about this picture, he generally stands up his favorite straw man: "If the assertion is, is that had we invaded Syria we would be less prone to terrorist attacks, I'll leave it to you to play out that scenario and whether that sounds accurate," he said during his recent news conference with British leader David Cameron.

But that is not the assertion. What critics suggest is that Obama should implement the strategy he outlined in a speech at West Point in May: not a U.S. invasion, not a subcontracting of the war to heavy-handed dictators, but "a network of partnerships from South Asia to the Sahel" with moderate forces committed to fighting extremism.

Unfortunately, Obama has put little meat on that strategy. He toppled Libya's strongman, then abandoned the country.

He pulled all advisers out of Iraq and vows to do the same to Afghanistan. He emphasizes drone strikes, but with little of the institution building that would engender cooperation over the long term. Help for Syrian moderates has been promised again and again for four years, with little to show for it. And instead of building public support for what must be a long and difficult effort, Obama barnstorms the country boasting that "our troops are coming home."

Which is true, for the moment. But as his reluctant redeployment of 3,000 troops to Iraq demonstrates, it will not stay true if the terrorists continue to advance. A partnership with the devil of Mideast autocracy will, in the long run, only stoke that advance.

Fred Hiatt is the editorial page editor of *The Washington Post*.

## A conspicuous failure of US foreign policy in Syria

By DOYLE McMANUS

Los Angeles Times

In 2011, the U.S. ambassador to Syria, a mild-mannered diplomat named Robert S. Ford, became the face of American support for the Arab Spring when he boldly visited opponents to the brutal regime of Bashar Assad in the northern city of Hama.

In 2014, Ford quit, saying he could not defend the Obama administration's inconstant support for Syrian rebels. "More hesitation ... [will] simply hasten the day when American forces have to intervene against al-Qaida in Syria," he warned.

Now, a year later, Ford's warning has come true. U.S. warplanes bomb jihadists in Syria week after week. Northern Syria has become a base for both the Islamic State, which invaded Iraq last year, and an al-Qaida franchise that trains European terrorists.

But Ford thinks U.S. policy has moved backward, not forward. "We're seeing Syria go in the opposite direction," he told me last week, "and I'm not sure it can be put back together."

It's the most conspicuous failure of U.S. foreign policy today. The Assad regime that President Barack Obama declared dead remains in power, and roughly half its territory is held by jihadists. The moderates the U.S. said it would support are mostly scattered and defeated.

You wouldn't have learned that from

Obama's State of the Union speech last week, though. In Obama's telling, Syria is part of a success story.

"In Iraq and Syria, American leadership, including our military power, is stopping [the Islamic State's] advance," Obama said. "Instead of getting dragged into another ground war in the Middle East, we are leading a broad coalition ... [and] supporting a moderate opposition in Syria that can help us in this effort."

It's a smarter kind of American leadership, the president said.

Actually, two American impulses have collided in Syria. One was the desire to help topple a regime that has held power through "murder, hostage-taking, enforced disappearances, torture, rape, sexual violence, use of child soldiers, targeting civilians, and indiscriminate bombing," to quote the State Department.

The other, stronger impulse was to avoid getting entangled in another war — and that officials said, has been the most consistent message from Obama and his closest aides.

So even as the administration announced program after program to aid moderate rebels — from humanitarian aid and "non-lethal supplies" to a not-yet-started plan to train 5,400 rebels a year — the warning that filtered through the bureaucracy was: It's safer to move slowly than it is to take risks.

"There's never been a great sense of ur-

gency in the administration about doing something big," Ford said. The new training program, he added, is so small that it "has the feel of checking a box."

Meanwhile, the jihadists didn't wait. They collected government aid and private donations from the Arab Gulf states; they bought weapons and trained rebels; and, in November, they overran bases of Harakat Hazm, an armed group the United States was backing, and seized its U.S.-supplied anti-tank missiles. "At that point, our window [for arming rebels] closed," Ford said.

There isn't much appetite in Congress for shipping anti-tank missiles to rebels if the missiles end up in the hands of al-Qaida affiliates. But that still leaves the United States fighting a war in Syria if it is to "destroy" the Islamic State, as Obama has promised.

That goal, if it's real, will require a ground force. U.S. officials have nominated Turkey, or a coalition of Turkey and friendly Arab forces, plus the future Syrian rebels if their U.S. training ever starts. But that's a force that doesn't exist in service of a strategy that hasn't been described.

One thing U.S. officials still insist they won't do is conclude an alliance with Syria's Assad.

But they're no longer insisting he needs to step down immediately. They've suggested that the United States could be flexible if Assad's regime entered serious peace talks

with the nonjihadist opposition.

"It is time for President Assad [and] the Assad regime to put their people first and to think about the consequences of their actions, which are attracting more and more terrorists to Syria," Secretary of State John Kerry said Jan. 14.

If the administration has a diplomatic strategy, it centers on cajoling countries that have influence in Syria — Russia, Iran, Saudi Arabia and Turkey — to join in a combined effort to end the conflict. The premise is that those countries fear the Islamic State and other jihadists enough to put aside their otherwise deep divisions. But that's a long way from happening too.

Until then, the U.S. strategy boils down to attacking the Islamic State from the air, hoping a war of attrition somehow weakens Assad's grip on power, and asking Turkey (and perhaps others) to act on the ground where the United States has been unwilling.

"Our problem is that we don't have much leverage," Ford said. "We have put very little skin in the game. The Russians and Iranians have put a lot of skin in the game."

That offers little ground for optimism.

The lesson of our misadventure in Syria may be this: A risk-averse foreign policy can keep you out of ground wars — but it can also keep other goals out of reach too.

Doyle McManus is a Los Angeles Times columnist.

# INDEPENDENT NEWS FOR THE U.S. MILITARY COMMUNITY

## Whenever They Fight and Wherever They Live

The first Stars and Stripes was printed during the Civil War, when a band of Union soldiers published a handful of editions.

During World War I, Stars and Stripes reappeared in Paris on February 8, 1918, to serve the doughboys of the American Expeditionary Force (AEF), by order of General of the Armies John J. Pershing. An all-military staff produced it weekly until the war's end.

A second renaissance began on April 18, 1942, when a small group of servicemen began publishing a four-page weekly Stars and Stripes in London. They sold each copy for "tuppence" (about 5 cents) and in no time doubled their page count to eight pages, printing daily instead of weekly.

The first World War II edition of Stars and Stripes featured an interview with Gen. George C. Marshall, Army Chief of Staff. Marshall quoted Gen. Pershing, World War I Commander of the AEF, who described Stars as a major factor in sustaining morale. Stars and Stripes later found a champion and protector in Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, Supreme Allied Commander and later president of the United States.

Eisenhower enforced a hands-off policy in regard to Stars and Stripes that continues to the present day.

Operations expanded, following GIs to the battlefield to bring them the news. During the war, Stars and Stripes published over 30

separate editions, running up to 24 pages per issue.

At one time, Stars and Stripes had some 25 printing locations in Europe, North Africa, the Middle East and the Pacific. The Pacific edition was launched a week after VE day (Victory in Europe, May 8, 1945).

The war ended—but Stars and Stripes kept going. Its reporters and photographers continued to join American troops in the field, throughout the Korean and Vietnam conflicts, during the 1990s Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm, and in Bosnia and Kosovo.

From the 2003 outset of Operation Enduring Freedom, Stars and Stripes was there to report first-hand. The war in Afghanistan continues to receive steady coverage. And during Operation Iraqi Freedom, Stars reporters embedded with military units in Kuwait and Iraq, as well as on Navy ships in the region.

Stars and Stripes today is a multimedia news organization. The majority of Stars and Stripes unique reporting efforts is read now in digital form, either online at [stripes.com](http://stripes.com) or via mobile offerings for iPhone, Android and iPad, in over 200 countries around the world.

The print newspaper is still available for servicemembers, government civilians and their families in

Europe, the Middle East and the Pacific—and in contingency areas. Washington, D.C., hosts the Central office, where daily editions are transmitted to printers in Afghanistan, Qatar, Bahrain, Kuwait, and Djibouti, as well as in Germany, Italy, UK, Japan, and South Korea. Stars and Stripes also publishes several weeklies (Stripes Guam, Japan, Korea and Okinawa), designed to serve the

needs of their respective military communities.

A U.S. edition comprised exclusively of Stars and Stripes reports from around the world now serves stateside forces and veterans. The U.S. edition is published in partnership with commercial newspaper publishers who serve communities with large military populations.



## STARS AND STRIPES RECOGNIZED FOR EXCELLENCE

- ★ 2014 VFW News Media Award – For outstanding contribution to a better understanding of our American way of life and its institutions and interests by honest and forthright reporting.
- ★ 2013 Best American Newspaper Narrative Writing Contest – Notable Narrative Winner  
Recipient: Martin Kuz: "Soldiers Recount Attack"
- ★ 2013 National Headline Awards – Second Place: News Series (Forever After: A Warrior Wounded; A Family Challenged)
- ★ 2013 min Best of Web: Redesign – Honorable Mention  
Stripes UK website

- ★ 2011 Military Photographer of the Year – Honorable Mention  
Recipient: Joshua DeMotts
- ★ 2011 Sigma Delta Chi Award – Breaking News Photography (Newspaper Circulation 100,001+ or Affiliated Website/National Magazine) Recipient: Laura Rauch: "For those I love I will sacrifice"
- ★ 2011 John Reagan "Tex" McCrary Award for Excellence in Journalism – Congressional Medal of Honor Foundation
- ★ 2010 Military Reporters and Editors Awards – Overseas coverage (< 100,000 circulation)  
Recipient: Jon Rabinoff

- ★ 2010 National Headliner Awards – First Place: Public Service (Forcing Change) – Third Place: News Series (Coming Home: The Men of Triple Deuce)
- ★ 2009 George Polk Awards in Journalism – George Polk Award for Military Reporting Recipients: Charlie Reed, Leo Shane III and Kevin Barton
- ★ 2009 min Editorial & Design Awards – Editorial Print / Special Supplement: HEROES 2009; Custom Publication Design: Stripes GAMER
- ★ 2007 Military Reporters and Editors Awards – Overseas coverage (< 100,000 circulation)  
Recipient: Monte Morin

- ★ 2006 Military Reporters and Editors Awards – Overseas coverage (< 100,000 circulation)  
Recipients: Monte Morin, Joe Giordano; Honorable mention: Nancy Montgomery Photography; Fred Zimmerman
- ★ 2005 Military Reporters and Editors Awards – Overseas coverage (< 100,000 circulation)  
Recipients: Steve Lewis Photography; Terry Boyd
- ★ 2004 American Legion Excellence in Journalism Award – Ground Truth Series
- ★ 2003 Scripps Howard Foundation National Journalism Award – First Amendment, Finalist



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## Announcements 040

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Be aware of the common red flags.

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## Autos for Sale 142

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Decia Renault Logan, 2007 \$3500.00 Electric windows, manual seats CD Power Mirror, tires, flat good until 2016 161743250204  
Autism: wade.73@gmail.com

Hyundai, Nissai GLS, 2004 \$14,000.00 Reliable, comfortable car, just passed inspection. Available only in the U.S. 01743204599 E-mail: mandash21@me.com

## Automotive 140

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## Autos for Sale 142

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Land Rover, Evoque, 2013 \$20,000.00 Excellent condition, brand new called and sold, just passed inspection. Available only in the U.S. 01743204599 E-mail: mandash21@me.com

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Germany

MINI Cooper, 5 2D Hatchback, 2011 \$20,000.00 Only 17,000 miles. Convenience, Cold Weather, Premium leather seats, and Sport Package. 161743250204

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## Autos for Sale 142

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Chevrolet, Camaro SS, 1971 \$12,000.00 Excellent condition, 350 engine, automatic with A/C, 161743250204

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## Autos for Sale 150

Benelux

FORD, Focus SE, 2009 \$27,000.00. Sale because of 100,000 miles. Located in Belgium. 2016 Excellent snow car - from where drive snow time on roads. All weather tires on alloy wheels. SE trim package, light blue w/ clearcoat, charcoal interior, automatic, air bags, and traction control. SIRUIR 1400 161743250204

## Sport Utility Vehicle 172

Honda, CRV, 2010 \$20,500.00 Great car in nearly perfect condition. Located in Belgium. 2016 Excellent snow car - from where drive snow time on roads. All weather tires on alloy wheels. SE trim package, light blue w/ clearcoat, charcoal interior, automatic, air bags, and traction control. SIRUIR 1400 161743250204

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Italy

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## Trucks 174

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Mercedes-Benz, Marco Polo, 2006 \$20,000.00

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1953 Life Magazine, International Edition (in English) \$19.00

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Italian Made Leather Couch

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The Company of Military Historians

## Autos for Sale 146

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Toyota, Fun Cargo, 2000 \$2,500.00 Good condition, 81,000 miles. 161743250204

## Autos for Sale 148

Korea

Sangyong, Musso, 2001 \$2,500.00 Good condition, 81,000 miles. 161743250204

## Furniture 510

China, Teak Wood, 3500.00

China, Teak Wood, 3500.00

## Autos for Sale 146

Japan

Toyota, Fun Cargo, 2000 \$2,500.00 Good condition, 81,000 miles. 161743250204

## Autos for Sale 148

Korea

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# STARS AND STRIPES

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## NHL

## Scoreboard

## Eastern Conference

## Atlantic Division

GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Tampa Bay	48	30	14	4	64	127
Detroit	47	27	11	9	63	139
Norfolk	46	28	13	3	61	122
Boston	48	25	16	7	57	126
Florida	48	24	14	8	63	122
Ottawa	46	19	18	9	47	126
Toronto	48	22	23	3	47	142
Buffalo	47	14	30	3	31	89

## Metropolitan Division

N.Y. Islanders	48	31	14	3	63	151
Pittsburgh	46	26	12	8	60	138
N.Y. Rangers	44	27	13	4	58	134
Washington	46	24	13	9	57	127
Philadelphia	48	19	22	7	45	130
Columbus	45	20	22	3	43	113
New Jersey	47	17	22	8	42	103
Carolina	46	16	25	5	37	92

## Western Conference

## Central Division

GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Nashville	45	30	10	5	65	137
St. Louis	46	29	13	4	62	148
Chicago	47	30	15	2	62	148
Colorado	48	26	14	8	60	125
Dallas	46	21	18	7	49	144
Minnesota	46	20	20	6	46	128

## Pacific Division

Anaheim	48	25	16	5	68	139
San Jose	48	25	17	6	56	131
Vancouver	45	26	14	5	56	124
Calgary	47	25	19	3	53	136
Los Angeles	47	20	15	12	52	126
Arizona	46	18	27	5	45	105
Edmonton	47	12	26	9	33	109

Note: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss.

## Monday's games

## No games scheduled

## Tuesday's games

N.Y. Rangers at N.Y. Islanders

Arizona at Philadelphia

Winnipeg at Pittsburgh

Washington at Columbus

Tampa Bay at Carolina

Dallas at Montreal

Detroit at Florida

Buffalo at Calgary

Minnesota at Edmonton

Anaheim at Vancouver

## Wednesday's games

Toronto at New Jersey

Pittsburgh at Washington

Chicago at Los Angeles

## Hometown star earns MVP honor from fans

The Associated Press

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Blue Jackets forward Ryan Johansen spent the past few days showing off Columbus to his fellow NHL All-Stars.

On Sunday, Johansen did some showing off of his own by winning an online fan vote to be named the game's MVP.

The fourth-year forward, and first-time All-Star won despite being on the short end of Team Foligno's 17-12 loss to Team Toews. Johansen led the team captained by Blue Jackets teammate Nick Foligno with four points (two goals and two assists) and won a new car to go with the honor.

He beat out two Team Toews

players — New York Islanders forward John Tavares and Boston's Patrice Bergeron. The three were announced as MVP finalists early in the third period, when the vote on Twitter began in the first time fans have determined the winner.

Johansen has emerged as a fan favorite in Columbus after getting off to an uncertain start to the season. As a restricted free agent, he held out the first two-plus weeks of training camp before signing a three-year, \$12 million contract in October.

The 2010 first-round draft pick has since delivered on that potential by leading the Blue Jackets with 43 points (17 goals, 26 assists) in 45 games.

## Sunday

## Team Toews 17,

## Team Foligno 12

Team Toews 4 7 6-17  
Team Foligno 4 4 4-12

**First Period**—1, Team Foligno, Vrbata 1 (Nugent-Hopkins), 3:09, 2, Team Toews, Getzlaf 1 (Tarasenko, Faulk), 6:33, 3, Team Toews, Voracek 1 (Toews, Ekblad), 9:51, 4, Team Foligno, Johansen 1 (N.Foligno, Shattenkirk), 11:05, 5, Team Toews, Bergeron 1 (Seguin, Elias), 12:17, 6, Team Foligno, Shattenkirk 1 (Nugent-Hopkins, Vrbata), 14:48, 7, Team Foligno, Johansen 2 (Ovechkin, Brydgen), 16:24, 8, Team Toews, Tavares 1 (Bergeron, Ekblad), 19:03.

**Second Period**—9, Team Toews, Suter 1 (Tarasenko, Seguin), 2:24, 10, Team Foligno, Giroux 1 (P.Kane), 3:22, 11, Team Toews, Seguin 1 (Getzlaf, Tarasenko), 4:22, 12, Team Foligno, Stamkos 1 (Keith), 2:27, 13, Team Toews, Ric.Nash 1 (Toews, Voracek), 4:08, 14, Team Toews, Forsberg 1 (J.Gaudreau, Elias), 5:56, 15, Team Toews, Tavares 2 (Bergeron, Faulk), 8:16, 16, Team Toews, Voracek 2 (Toews, Ekblad), 9:22, 17, Team Foligno, N.Foligno 1 (Johansen, Ovechkin), 11:59, 18, Team Foligno, Stamkos 2 (B.Ryan), 16:35, 19, Team Toews, Tavares 3 (Bergeron), 19:00.

**Third Period**—20, Team Toews, Ric.Nash 2 (Giordano, Voracek), 1:29, 21, Team Foligno, P.Kane 1 (Giroux, Doughty), 2:15, 22, Team Toews, Tavares 4 (Bergeron, Seabrook), 6:13, 23, Team Toews, Voracek 3 (Toews, Ekblad), 7:30, 24, Team Foligno, B.Ryan 1 (Stamkos, Ekman-Larsson), 8:23, 25, Team Toews, Seguin 2 (Tarasenko, Suter), 9:26, 26, Team Foligno, P.Kane 2 (B.Ryan, Giroux), 13:09, 27, Team Toews, Toews 1 (Suter), 14:21, 28, Team Toews, Forsberg 2 (J.Gaudreau, Voracek), 16:40, 29, Team Toews, B.Ryan 2 (Ovechkin, Johansen), 18:20.

**Shots on Goal**—Team Toews 16-16-47, Team Foligno 17-18-10-45.  
**Power-play opportunities**—Team Toews 0 of 0; Team Foligno 0 of 0.  
**Goalies**—Team Toews, Luongo (17 shots-13 saves), Crawford 1-0-0 (0:00 second, 18-14), Halak (0:00 third, 10-6). Team Foligno, Price (16-12), M.Fleury 0-1-0 (0:00 second, 16-9), B.Elliott (0:00 third, 15-9).  
A-18,901 (18,140), T-2-33.



GENE J. PUSKAS/AP

Team Toews captain Jonathan Toews of the Chicago Blackhawks skates between Team Foligno captain Nick Foligno, left, and Ryan Johansen, right, of the Columbus Blue Jackets during the NHL All-Star Game in Columbus, Ohio, on Sunday. Team Toews won 17-12.

## Offense rules in All-Star Game

## Team Toews' Tavares nets four of record 29 total goals

BY RUSTY MILLER  
The Associated Press

COLUMBUS, Ohio — The NHL Foundation agreed to donate \$200 for each shot on goal at the league's All-Star Game on Sunday night.

It ended up being a bonanza for charity.

In the biggest offensive display in the exhibition game's 60-year history, the 92 shots cost the NHL \$18,400.

John Tavares of the New York Islanders matched a record with four goals, and Team Toews best Team Foligno 17-12 on Sunday in the highest-scoring NHL All-Star Game.

The game likely will also cost the NHL's goalies and defensemen a lot of sleepless nights.

In addition to the garish goal total, 25 players had at least two points and eight had at least four.

"We had so many good players on each team," said Philadelphia Flyers forward Jake Voracek, who tied another record with six points. "There's going to be a lot

of goals."

**Broken records:** It was the most goals in an All-Star Game, eclipsing the 26-goal burst in North America's 14-12 victory over the World in 2001.

Voracek's six points tied another mark set by Pittsburgh's legendary Mario Lemieux.

Captain Jonathan Toews of the Chicago Blackhawks had a goal and four assists, as did Boston's Patrice Bergeron. Dallas' Tyler Seguin had two goals and two assists, Filip Forsberg of Nashville, and Rick Nash of the New York Rangers — another former Columbus star — both scored twice, and Florida's Aaron Ekblad and St. Louis' Vladimir Tarasenko each had four assists.

For Team Foligno, Chicago's Patrick Kane and Tampa Bay's Steven Stamkos had two goals and an assist apiece, Philadelphia's Claude Giroux had a goal and two assists, and Washington's Alexander Ovechkin added three assists.

**Quote of the game:** The Blue

Jackets fire an ear-splitting salvo with their goal cannon — the franchise is named for the Union uniforms which were made in the city — after each goal by the home team. With Columbus' Nick Foligno and Johansen playing together, Toews said he was thrilled to not have to hear more of the thunderous booms.

"It's loud enough that it gets on your nerves pretty quickly and especially when they score 12 or so goals," he said. "It gets you a little bit."

**Best moment:** Late in the second period, during a scrum in front of the net, Ovechkin and Nick Foligno pretended to mix it up with Calgary's Mike Giordano and Chicago's Brent Seabrook.

They sort of traded awkward hugs. Then everyone separated and cracked up as they skated to the benches.

**A winning visit:** NHL officials, players and the fans raved about the many activities surrounding the All-Star weekend in Columbus, a first for the city.

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## COLLEGE BASKETBALL/NBA



SETH WENIG/AP

Duke head coach Mike Krzyzewski is congratulated by his team after defeating St. John's on Sunday in New York. Krzyzewski reached 1,000 wins in his coaching career with the Blue Devils' 77-68 victory.

## Roundup

## Coach 1K

Krzyzewski first Division I coach to reach 1,000 wins

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Make no mistake: Mike Krzyzewski is proud of his 1,000 wins. Just don't expect him to keep chasing milestones much longer.

"There's an end in sight. I'm going to be 68 next month. It'll end sooner than later," he said.

Krzyzewski became the first NCAA Division I men's coach to get 1,000 wins when No. 5 Duke surged past St. John's late in the second half Sunday for a 77-68 victory at Madison Square Garden.

Tyus Jones scored 22 points and the Blue Devils (17-2) went on an 18-2 run down the stretch to put Coach K in four figures on his first try.

"There will be others that win more, but it is kind of neat to be the first one to 1,000," he said.

Coach K. How grand, indeed.

Jahlil Okafor had 17 points and 10 rebounds, combining with Jones and Quinn Cook (17 points) to fuel the decisive spurt after Duke trailed by 10 with 8:15 remaining.

That's when the Blue Devils finally began to look like a Krzyzewski-coached team, picking up their defense and hustling to loose balls as he urged them on from one knee in front of the bench. Duke outworked the Red Storm (13-6) on the glass and held them without a field goal for 6 pivotal minutes.

"It just, boom! It was great," Krzyzewski said. "It was beautiful, really, to see them fight today and win."

**No. 2 Virginia 50, Virginia Tech 47:** Justin Anderson scored eight of his 12 points during a late 12-0 run and the visiting Cavaliers edged the Hokies.

**No. 4 Villanova 71, Creighton 50:** Darrun Hilliard scored a season-high 24 points to lead the host Wildcats over the Blue Jays.

**No. 8 Notre Dame 81, North Carolina State 78, OT:** Jerian Grant scored 25 points and blocked a last-second shot that helped the Fighting Irish beat the host Wolfpack.

**No. 10 Louisville 80, Pittsburgh 68:** Terry Rozier scored 26 points and the visiting Cardinals pulled away from the Panthers.

**No. 12 Utah 77, Washington 56:** Dakari Tucker scored a career-high 19 points, Brandon Taylor added 14 and the host Utes beat the Huskies.

**No. 13 Maryland 68, Northwestern 67:** Melo



KATHY WILLENS/AP

Duke center Marshall Plumlee (40) pulls down a rebound in front of St. John's forward Chris Obekpa (12) as Duke guard Matt Jones (13) and center Jahlil Okafor, right, assist during Sunday's game at Madison Square Garden in New York.

Trimble scored 27 points, and a tip-in by Dez Wells with 1.4 seconds left capped a furious comeback that enabled the Terrapins to squeeze past the visiting Wildcats.

**No. 14 Wichita State 74, Drake 40:** Ron Baker scored 15 points and the host Shockers breezed past the Bulldogs for their 26th straight win in the Missouri Valley Conference.

**No. 20 Northern Iowa 54, Illinois State 53:** Nate Buss hit a three-pointer with 5 seconds left and the Panthers edged the host Redbirds.

**Ohio State 82, No. 23 Indiana 70:** D'Angelo Russell scored 22 points and added 10 assists, Jae'Sean Tate added a career-high 20 points, and the Buckeyes defeated the visiting Hoosiers.

**Buiter 77, No. 24 Seton Hall 57:** Andrew Chrabaszcz scored 15 of his 16 points in the first half to lead the host Bulldogs past the Pirates.

## Around the NBA

## Klay, Kobe make news in busy week

By TIM REYNOLDS

The Associated Press

MIAMI — Not much happened in the NBA this week.

Klay Thompson scored an NBA-record 37 points in a perfect quarter that defied even video-game logic, Kobe Bryant's season likely ended, Brandon Jennings' season definitely ended, the All-Star starter selections were revealed with Stephen Curry winning the overall vote and Kyle Lowry getting enough Twitter love to edge Dwyane Wade as a starter, Atlanta remained insanely hot, LeBron James airballed a free throw and Miami's Hassan Whiteside became the sixth player to post a 14-point, 13-rebound, 12-block game. Right. Not much happened.

So what will this coming week do for an encore?

Well, there's the announcement of the All-Star reserves, which will bring a fair amount of intrigue. The Hawks — now winners of 16 straight — play the final three games of their seven-game homestand, so that streak might not be ending anytime soon. And don't look now, but the Cleveland Cavaliers have suddenly won six in a row, putting a quick end to all that speculation about David Blatt's short-term job security.

Here's a more in-depth look at the week ahead:

**Southwest battles:** The best divisional race in the NBA will be in the Southwest, and it heats up this week when Memphis faces Dallas on Tuesday, then the Mavericks meet Houston the following night. Here's how good those teams have been this season: San Antonio is a fourth-place team in that division right now.

**Pierce in L.A.:** Washington visits the Lakers on Tuesday, which means Paul Pierce returns to Los Angeles — he was born in Oakland, but went to high school in



BEN MARGOT/AP

The Warriors' Klay Thompson shoots during his 37-point third quarter against the Sacramento Kings on Friday in Oakland, Calif.

the L.A. suburb of Inglewood. In 34 past games in Los Angeles, including playoffs, Pierce has averaged 23.3 points.

**Big Sunday in Boston:** The Celtics are home on Sunday, playing host to the Miami Heat. If Boston fans, some of the best in the NBA, seem distracted it's for a very good reason: That game starts 5½ hours before the New England Patriots meet the Seattle Seahawks in the Super Bowl. There's only two NBA games on Super Bowl Sunday, both should end long before kickoff and none of the teams involved — the Heat, Celtics, Lakers and Knicks — have to play the next day, so everyone would theoretically have the chance to watch the Pats-Seahawks game if so inclined.

**Hawks week:** Atlanta has games against Brooklyn, Portland and Philadelphia, as the Hawks look to extend their winning streak. The Hawks are 37-8 so far this season. They went 38-44 last season.



NAM Y. HUN/AP

Miami center Hassan Whiteside, left, battles for a rebound with forward Chris Bosh, right, and Chicago Bulls center Pau Gasol on Sunday. Whiteside finished with 14 points, 13 rebounds, and 12 blocks in the Heat's 96-84 win.

## NBA

## Scoreboard

## Eastern Conference

Atlantic Division			
	W	L	Pct
Toronto	11	12	721
Brooklyn	18	26	409
Boston	17	27	313
Philadelphia	8	38	182
New York	8	37	178

Southeast Division			
	W	L	Pct
Atlanta	20	8	822
Washington	11	24	313
Miami	20	24	455
Charlotte	19	26	422
Orlando	17	28	319

Central Division			
	W	L	Pct
Chicago	20	17	630
Cleveland	20	25	556
Milwaukee	22	22	500
San Antonio	18	28	378
Indiana	16	30	348

## Western Conference

Southwest Division			
	W	L	Pct
Memphis	30	11	721
Houston	31	14	689
Dallas	25	15	667
San Antonio	19	23	630
New Orleans	23	21	523

Northwest Division			
	W	L	Pct
Portland	32	13	711
Oklahoma City	22	22	500
Denver	18	26	409
Utah	16	28	364
Norwest	17	27	319

Pacific Division			
	W	L	Pct
Golden State	36	6	857
Clippers	24	18	568
Phoenix	26	16	565
Sacramento	17	27	319
L.A. Lakers	12	32	267

## Saturday's games

Charlotte 76, New York 71
Washington 101, Detroit 96
Atlanta 101, Philadelphia 93
Utah 108, Brooklyn 73
Portland 103, Washington 96

## Sunday's games

Miami 96, Chicago 84
Cleveland 108, Oklahoma City 98
L.A. Clippers 120, Phoenix 100
New Orleans 109, Dallas 106
San Antonio 101, Minnesota 99
Indiana 106, Orlando 99

## Monday's games

Portland 114, Detroit 110
Utah 108, Oklahoma City 98
Washington 114, Boston 111
Washington 117, Dallas 115
Ottawa 99, L.A. Lakers 87

## Tuesday's games

Portland at Brooklyn
Brooklyn at New York
Philadelphia at New Orleans
Minnesota at Oklahoma City
Atlanta at Memphis
Boston at L.A. Clippers
Denver at L.A. Lakers

## Wednesday's games

Toronto at Indiana
Atlanta at Miami
Cleveland at Detroit
San Antonio at L.A. Lakers
Chicago at Golden State
Washington at L.A. Lakers

## Thursday's games

Toronto at Indiana
Atlanta at Miami
Cleveland at Detroit
San Antonio at L.A. Lakers
Chicago at Golden State
Washington at L.A. Lakers

## Friday's games

Toronto at Indiana
Atlanta at Miami
Cleveland at Detroit
San Antonio at L.A. Lakers
Chicago at Golden State
Washington at L.A. Lakers

## Saturday's games

Toronto at Indiana
Atlanta at Miami
Cleveland at Detroit
San Antonio at L.A. Lakers
Chicago at Golden State
Washington at L.A. Lakers

## Sunday's games

Toronto at Indiana
Atlanta at Miami
Cleveland at Detroit
San Antonio at L.A. Lakers
Chicago at Golden State
Washington at L.A. Lakers

## Monday's games

Toronto at Indiana
Atlanta at Miami
Cleveland at Detroit
San Antonio at L.A. Lakers
Chicago at Golden State
Washington at L.A. Lakers

## Tuesday's games

Toronto at Indiana
Atlanta at Miami
Cleveland at Detroit
San Antonio at L.A. Lakers
Chicago at Golden State
Washington at L.A. Lakers

## Wizards 117, Nuggets 115 (OT)

**WASHINGTON** — Pierce 4-9 10-14, 19, Nene 7-9 10-14, Gortals 3-7 2-7, Wall 8-12 19, Beal 11-11 14, Butler 3-8 0-0, Humphries 9-13 3-4, Webster 2-7 0-0, Odom 5-9 0-0, Miller 1-4 0-0, Porter 1-0 0-0, Totals 48-90 17-23, Wizards 117, Nuggets 115.

**DETROIT** — Chandler 19-0 10-10, Faried 4-10 1-4, Nurkic 2-6 2-2, Lawson 1-2 0-0, Afflalo 4-10 1-2 11, Hickson 3-5 4-8, Gollub 1-1 4-4 7, Arthur 6-15 0-0, Foye 0-0 0-0, Nelson 2-4 0-0 9, Totals 48-90 17-23, Wizards 117, Nuggets 115.

**WASHINGTON** 28 31 25 22 12-17  
**DETROIT** 28 31 25 22 10-15  
 Three-Point Goals—Washington 4-14 (Pierce 1-2, Beal 1-2, Butler 1-4, Wall 1-6), Detroit 12-29 (Chandler 4-9, Nelson 3-4, Lawson 3-5, Gallinari 1-2, Afflalo 1-7, Arthur 0-2, Foye 0-2, Beal 0-2, Hickson 0-2, Gollub 0-2, Odom 0-2, Miller 0-2, Porter 0-2, Totals 12-29).

**DETROIT** 28 31 25 22 10-15  
 Three-Point Goals—Washington 4-14 (Pierce 1-2, Beal 1-2, Butler 1-4, Wall 1-6), Detroit 12-29 (Chandler 4-9, Nelson 3-4, Lawson 3-5, Gallinari 1-2, Afflalo 1-7, Arthur 0-2, Foye 0-2, Beal 0-2, Hickson 0-2, Gollub 0-2, Odom 0-2, Miller 0-2, Porter 0-2, Totals 12-29).

## Spurs 101, Bucks 95

**MILWAUKEE** — Antetokounmpo 2-5 0-0 4, Lyles 0-0 0-0, Henson 2-0 0-0 4, Dudley 4-10 0-0 10, Middleton 9-14 0-0 21, Mayo 4-10 0-0, Horner 2-0 0-0 4, Dunbar 3-10 0-0, Bayless 5-10 5-15, Martin 1-0 0-0, Totals 98-92 19-13.

**SAN ANTONIO** — Leonard 4-11 0-12 19, Duncan 9-13 12-20, Bonner 2-7 0-0 5, Parker 3-13 4-10 10, Ginobili 9-19 0-0 19, Manu 0-0 0-0 10, Ginobili 3-8 6-8 13, Diaw 7-10 0-0 14, Spillner 3-2 0-0 12, Mills 1-0 0-0 2, Totals 98-92 19-13.

**MILWAUKEE** 24 31 28 36-9  
**SAN ANTONIO** 24 31 28 36-9  
 Three-Point Goals—Milwaukee 8-17 (Middleton 3-5, Knight 2-4, Dudley 1-2, Lyles 0-0, Mayo 1-3, Bayless 0-0, Henson 0-0, Antetokounmpo 0-0, Henson 0-0, Middleton 0-0, Mills 0-0, Spillner 0-0, Totals 8-17).

**SAN ANTONIO** 24 31 28 36-9  
 Three-Point Goals—Milwaukee 8-17 (Middleton 3-5, Knight 2-4, Dudley 1-2, Lyles 0-0, Mayo 1-3, Bayless 0-0, Henson 0-0, Antetokounmpo 0-0, Henson 0-0, Middleton 0-0, Mills 0-0, Spillner 0-0, Totals 8-17).

## Raptors 114, Pistons 110

**DETROIT** — Singler 1-3 2-4, Monroe 9-17 3-21, Drummond 7-11 0-14 14, Lyles 1-0 0-0 3, Caldwell-Pope 6-17 1-2 16, Tolliver 3-5 2-11, Meeks 1-3 4-5 4, Hamilton 1-2 0-0 2, Gortals 1-0 0-0 0, Odom 0-0 0-0 0, Totals 41-90 16-23.

**DETROIT** 41-90 16-23  
**RAPTORS** 41-90 16-23  
 Three-Point Goals—Raptors 11-24 (Singler 1-3, Monroe 2-4, Drummond 2-4, Lyles 1-0, Caldwell-Pope 2-4, Tolliver 1-2, Meeks 1-3, Hamilton 1-2, Gortals 1-0, Odom 0-0, Totals 11-24).

**DETROIT** 41-90 16-23  
**RAPTORS** 41-90 16-23  
 Three-Point Goals—Raptors 11-24 (Singler 1-3, Monroe 2-4, Drummond 2-4, Lyles 1-0, Caldwell-Pope 2-4, Tolliver 1-2, Meeks 1-3, Hamilton 1-2, Gortals 1-0, Odom 0-0, Totals 11-24).

**DETROIT** 41-90 16-23  
**RAPTORS** 41-90 16-23  
 Three-Point Goals—Raptors 11-24 (Singler 1-3, Monroe 2-4, Drummond 2-4, Lyles 1-0, Caldwell-Pope 2-4, Tolliver 1-2, Meeks 1-3, Hamilton 1-2, Gortals 1-0, Odom 0-0, Totals 11-24).

**DETROIT** 41-90 16-23  
**RAPTORS** 41-90 16-23  
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## Clippers 120, Suns 100

**L.A. CLIPPERS** — Barnes 1-9 2-2 4, Griffin 11-19 11-23, Jordan 5-8 15-18, Paul 7-11 6-7 23, Redick 7-12 18-23, Crawford 3-12 3-10, Hawes 4-4 1-11, Rivers 1-4 0-0, Turkoglu 2-3 0-0 5, Davis 1-4 0-0 4, Udri 1-1 0-0 2, Wilcox 0-0 0-0 0, Jones 0-0 0-0 0, Totals 43-87 24-36 120.

**PHOENIX** — Tucker 1-8 0-0 3, Mark Morris 4-9 1-2, Green 6-8 3-4 5, D.Gracic 3-11 4-4 10, Bledsoe 6-11 4-6 17, Thomas 1-11 9-25, Plumlee 1-3 0-0 2, March 1-5 7-23, Green 2-9 0-0 6, Bullock 0-1 0-0 0, Warren 0-1 0-0 0, Z.Dragic 0-1 0-0 0, Gortals 0-0 0-0 0, Totals 34-80 22-27 100.

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# AUSTRALIAN OPEN/NFL



ROB GRIFFITH/AP

Venus Williams celebrates her victory over Agnieszka Radwanska at the Australian Open on Monday.

## Williams sisters advance

Both reach quarters of major for first time since 2010 Wimbledon

By JOHN PYE  
The Associated Press

MELBOURNE, Australia — Fireworks lit up the sky above Rod Laver Arena the moment Venus Williams completed her fourth-round win at the Australian Open on Monday night.

It's been that kind of tournament so far for the 34-year-old, seven-time Grand Slam winner. Williams advanced to her first quarterfinal in a major since Wimbledon in 2010 and she'll be joined by her younger sister, Serena, in the final eight.

As multi-colored pinwheels and other fireworks celebrating the Australia Day holiday cascaded from the sky, Venus took time on court to credit Serena for her support and inspiration. In 2011, Venus was diagnosed with the energy-sapping Sjogren's syndrome, a major reason for her absence from the late stages of big tournaments — until now.

"Definitely my sister Serena, she's just the ultimate champion, and definitely a lot of inspiration from all my fans who have stayed behind me through thick and thin," Venus said.

On the men's side, No. 1-seeded Novak Djokovic, defending champion Stan Wawrinka, U.S. Open runner-up Kei Nishikori and Canadian Milos Raonic won their fourth-round matches.

Djokovic had a 6-4, 7-5, 7-5 win over Gilles Muller to reach the quarterfinals at a 23rd consecutive major.

That sets up a pair of compelling quarterfinals: Djokovic vs. Raonic, and Wawrinka vs. Nishikori.

Venus Williams, asked if her 6-3, 2-6, 6-1 win over Agnieszka Radwanska was her biggest in a while, said "from the outside looking in, I guess it could be like that."

"(But) I feel like I've been here before so it's not like I'm jumping up and down for joy."

Venus will next face Madison Keys, a 19-year-old American who was inspired to play tennis by watching the Williams sisters.

"It's definitely been an experience, really playing well, kind of living up to what people have been saying," Keys said. "I'm just really happy that it's finally here and that I'm doing so well."

Keys has looked increasingly comfortable as she's progressed deeper into the draw with her new coach, Lindsay Davenport, watching from the stands.

Then again, she has faced expectations as the next American tennis hope since she played — and won — her debut match on the WTA Tour in 2009 at the age of 14, the youngest player to do so since Martina Hingis.

Serena Williams had a 2-6, 6-3, 6-2 win over Garbine Muguruza, motivated by a loss to the Span-



ROB GRIFFITH/AP

Serena Williams celebrates a point won against Garbine Muguruza during her fourth-round match at the Australian Open on Monday.

ish player at the 2014 French Open.

"She made me play a lot better," Serena Williams said. "I had to play the best match of the tournament or else I was going to be out."

The five-time Australian Open winner next faces Dominika Cibulkova, who beat two-time champion Victoria Azarenka 6-2, 3-6, 6-3. Keys advanced to her first Grand Slam quarterfinal with a 6-2, 6-4 win over good friend and fellow American Madison Brengle.

Serena Williams had difficulty breathing at times Monday and coughed throughout.

"When I got down, I was thinking, 'What can I do now?'" Williams said. "Whatever happens, I thought, 'I've won this five times.'"

Looking for No. 6, she'll need to get past Cibulkova, who hit 44 winners and broke former No. 1-ranked Azarenka's serve seven times. The No. 10-ranked Cibulkova lost in the final here last year to the now-retired Li Na.

Wawrinka advanced by beating Guillermo Garcia-Lopez 7-6 (2), 6-4, 4-6, 7-6 (8) and No. 8 Raonic posted a 6-4, 4-6, 6-3, 7-7 (6), 6-3 win over No. 12 Feliciano Lopez. Spurred on by hundreds of flag-waving Japanese supporters at Rod Laver Arena, No. 5-ranked Nishikori had little trouble in a 6-3, 6-3, 6-3 win over No. 9 David Ferrer.

## Pro Bowl

# Watt gives juice to watered-down game

By BOB BAUM  
The Associated Press

GLENDALE, Ariz. — J.J. Watt dandced, Jimmy Graham dunked, Odell Beckham Jr. dazzled.

The Pro Bowl in the desert was all about having a good time.

Few moved very fast, no one flattened a quarterback and there were no bone-jarring hits in the gentle, friendly version of football played Sunday.

Even in a game dominated by offense, Watt was the star.

The Texans defensive end intercepted a pass, recovered a fumble and led the crowd in dances during commercial breaks.

Team Irvin defeated 32-28 Watt's Team Carter, but the score doesn't matter in the NFL's all-star game. Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves, no one more so than Watt, moving to the music while the cheerleaders danced.

"I just tried to enjoy it," he said.

"That's what the Pro Bowl is all about, giving the fans a good show. Everybody worked so hard to get here, you want to enjoy yourself and play some good ball. Guys are dancing around and having a good time, that's what it's all about."

In its one year out of Hawaii, the game drew a sellout crowd of 63,225.

Memorable moments came from Graham, the Saints' tight end who dunked over the cross-

bar twice after TD catches — this time with no penalty, and Giants rookie Beckham, who made a diving grab at midfield.

Graham's second touchdown, on a 1-yard, fourth-down pass from Matt Ryan, was the winning TD with 3:10 to play.

Greg Olsen and Emmanuel Sanders also caught a pair of touchdown passes each. Matthew Stafford threw for 316 yards and two TDs and was the offensive MVP.

The Pro Bowl took a one-year hiatus from Hawaii to be played in the desert a week before the Super Bowl. If the players missed the beach, they wouldn't let on.

"It's been fantastic," Dallas quarterback Tony Romo said. "The turnout here at the stadium is just like an NFL game."

Romo knew this wasn't a real NFL game.

The difference between Hawaii and Arizona?

"More fans," Cardinals cornerback Patrick Peterson said. "I believe it gives the fans an opportunity — it's a little bit more expensive trip versus going across the water. So I think it's definitely getting more fans engaged in the game."

"It's a blast," Stafford said. "To able to play with the best in the world is a whole lot of fun, and everybody is such good people too. I am out here having a good time."

## Briefs

# Source: Browns' Gordon failed another drug test

The Associated Press

CLEVELAND — Josh Gordon's troubles have deepened. He may be out of chances — and time.

The wide receiver for the Browns has failed yet another drug test, a person familiar with the situation told The Associated Press on Sunday. Gordon, who has twice been suspended by the NFL for drug violations, could be banned for one year, said the person who spoke on the condition of anonymity because of the confidentiality of the testing.

ESPN, citing anonymous sources, first reported Gordon's failed test.

"Clearly we are very disappointed to hear the latest report regarding Josh," a Browns spokesman said Sunday in a release. "At this point, due to the confidential nature of the NFL's substance-abuse policy, we have not been made aware by the league of a failed test. We are in the process of gathering more information and will provide further comment at the appropriate time."

Agent Drew Rosenhaus said he could not comment on his client's

situation. NFL spokesman Brian McCarthy declined comment.

## Jury seated to hear Hernandez murder trial

FALL RIVER, Mass. — A jury has been seated for the murder trial of former New England Patriots player Aaron Hernandez.

Bristol County Superior Court Judge Susan Garsh on Monday seated a jury of 13 women and five men after more than two weeks of jury selection. They were chosen from a pool of 53 potential jurors who made it through screening for biases and hardships.

Garsh says six of the 18 jurors will be randomly selected as alternates just before deliberations start.

Hernandez is charged with killing Odell Lloyd of Boston in June 2013. Lloyd was dating the sister of Hernandez's fiancée.

He has pleaded not guilty.

The judge says because of the blizzard approaching the region, opening statements are scheduled for Thursday, though they could be postponed further because of the weather.



# SUPER BOWL



ELAINE THOMPSON/AP

Seattle Seahawks head coach Pete Carroll was fired by the Jets after one season, and then fired by the Patriots after three seasons. He was replaced by Bill Belichick, who he'll face in the Super Bowl.



BILL WIPPERT/AP



JACK DEMPSEY/AP



JOHN STARKS, DAILY HERALD/AP

From left: Buffalo's Rex Ryan, Denver's Gary Kubiak and Chicago's John Fox have all been hired as head coaches after being fired from previous head coaching jobs.



CHARLES KRUPA/AP

Patriots head coach Bill Belichick was fired by the Cleveland Browns after mediocre seasons from 1991-1995. New England hired him in 2001, and he led the team to a Super Bowl victory.

## Second life

### Super coaches part of growing team trend to recycle NFL leaders

By ARNIE STAPLETON  
The Associated Press

ENGLEWOOD, Colo.—The two men vying to put their fingerprints on the Lombardi Trophy are testament to the axiom that men who flop in their first NFL head coaching job can subsequently flourish.

Pete Carroll and Bill Belichick were busts in their first go-around.

Carroll was jettisoned by the Jets after one season and then fired by the Patriots after three years in New England, where his replacement was none other than Belichick, who had been banished by the Browns after a mediocre half-decade in Cleveland.

One of them will be fitted for another diamond-encrusted ring this offseason.

When the confetti falls on either the Seahawks or Patriots next Sunday, 12 of the last 18 Super Bowl champions will have been coached by men who had felt the sting of the pink slip as an NFL head coach.

Before this streak, all 23 Super Bowl champions between 1974 and 1996 were led by men who were on the first NFL head coaching job.

Now, rereads are all the rage. That should bode well for fans of the Broncos, Bears, Raiders and Bills. Of the six openings that have been filled so far, four have gone to men who bring head coaching experience to their new jobs: Gary Kubiak in Denver, John Fox in Chicago, Jack Del Rio in Oakland and Rex Ryan in Buffalo.

Their respective résumés were cited by their new employers as a crucial factor.

Fired after going 50-52, counting playoffs, with the Jets from 2009-14, Ryan landed in Buffalo, where Doug Marrone had stepped down abruptly.

"We were basically the only team looking for a head coach who did not fire their head coach the year before. So we decided ... that maybe we should go the veteran route," said Bills owner Terry Pegula.

Others did, too. "Experience was paramount," Oakland GM Reggie McKenzie said after hiring Del Rio, whose 69-73 record in Jacksonville from 2003-11 looks all the better given the Jaguars' 11-42 record since.

Del Rio, who spent the last three seasons as Denver's defensive coordinator, said he's much more comfortable and confident calling the shots and the plays now.

"You have an idea when you're a young coach of what you think

it would be" making all the decisions, "and then the reality of being a head coach sets in," Del Rio said. "I think there's been tremendous growth. It also was very beneficial after being a head coach, getting the past three years to go back and be a coordinator in a successful group, because I was able to see things from a different perspective."

Kubiak had that same viewpoint in Baltimore last year when he helped rejuvenate the Ravens as their offensive coordinator after going 63-66 in Houston from 2006-13.

That year in Baltimore was invaluable "for me as a coach, being around John Harbaugh, being around that organization, being around Ozzie Newsome,

watching them go about their business, how they go about being successful week in and week out," Kubiak said.

"I take all that with me as I move forward and I know I'm a lot better coach now than I was when I left" Denver in 2006 after a decade as the Broncos offensive coordinator.

Said Ryan: "I'm a different man right now than I was six years ago because I lacked experience as a head coach ... I will be a better coach now. Through experience, I don't think there's any doubt that you become more of an expert." Fox is the most experienced of the recycled coaches. He's 127-96 overall, including 49-22 in Denver, where his 3-4 postseason record led to a split with GM John Elway.

Never mind that Fox is pushing 60, either. After all, Carroll is 63 and Belichick 62.

"You saw his energy. He's got the fire in the belly," chairman George McCaskey said. Ryan Pace, the 37-year-old GM, added: "I look at John as being my age."

"He's a youthful personality and I think it's great because he has the experience, still with the energy," Pace said. "So it's a perfect combination. ... You look around the league, you look at Belichick and Pete Carroll, there's a track record of these guys who come in and learn from these experiences, and get better every step of the way."

Ryan said he'd coached with second chances have an extra edge to them that first-timers lack: they're driven to prove they're not only a good coach but a better one for having failed.

"Yes, it is personal, there's no question about it," he said. "It's embarrassing. I see myself as a good football coach and I can't wait."

## SUPER BOWL

# The best of the best

## Looking back at the most memorable gimmick plays in Super Bowl history

By DAVE CAMPBELL  
The Associated Press

Trick plays stand out in a Super Bowl a little like clown suits at a cocktail party.

In this highest-of-high-stakes contest, the appetite for NFL coaches whose strategies lean more conservative than not is typically low for gadgets and gimmicks. Surprising the other team with a safety blitz or deep pass, sure, but the risk of true trickery can be steep with a title on the line.

Yes, the reward of a valuable touchdown remains. Mess up a trick play in a game of this magnitude and lose a close one in the end? Well, good luck living that decision down, coach, for the rest of your career.

Perhaps another gimmick or two will emerge next week in Arizona when the New England Patriots play the Seattle Seahawks. The Patriots threw a touchdown pass to left tackle Nate Solder in the AFC Championship, after all, and the Seahawks scored on a fake field goal toss by punter Jon Ryan to spur their comeback victory for the NFC title.

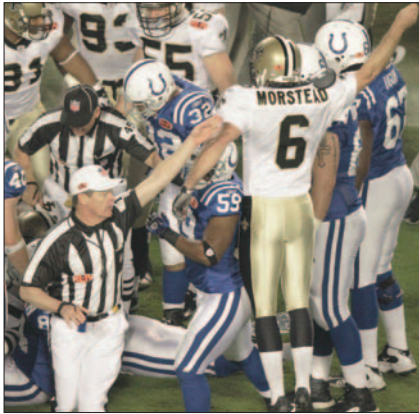
For now, here's a list of the best trick plays in Super Bowl history:

### 'Ambush' in Miami

Onside kicks are expected at the end of the game when the trailing team is running out of time, but New Orleans stunned Indianapolis and everyone else watching the game by recovering the kickoff to start the second half in Miami in 2010.

The play was called "ambush," a stutter-step tap by rookie kicker Thomas Morstead out of a standard formation that came with the Colts leading 10-6. The Saints responded with their first touchdown six plays and 58 yards later and went on to win 31-17.

Saints coach Sean Payton was inspired by his mentor Bill Par-



cells, one of the boldest coaches in history. Payton drew praise from President Barack Obama at the White House ceremony for the first-time champions.

"I make some tough decisions every day, but I've never decided on an inside kick in the second half of the Super Bowl. That took some guts," Obama said.

### Second-half spark

Twenty-three years earlier, Parcells was the coach who saw the opening for a surprise with his team trailing at the break. The New York Giants lined up for a punt on fourth-and-1 near mid-field when backup quarterback Jeff Rutledge moved up behind center before the snap. He took it 2 yards on a sneak, and Phil Simms had them in the end zone five plays later for a 16-10 lead over Denver at the Rose Bowl.

Later in the third quarter,

Parcells struck again. With the Broncos focused on stopping the run, Joe Morris took a handoff he flipped back to Simms, who found Phil McConkey wide open for a 44-yard completion on the flea flicker. With a touchdown on the next play, the Giants were up by 16 points and went on to win handily.

### Stick it to 'em

The 1978 Super Bowl was in New Orleans, where Dallas had a 10-point lead midway through the fourth quarter. After Denver lost a fumble on a sack at its 29-yard line, Cowboys coach Tom Landry called for the kill shot. Running back Robert Newhouse took a pitch and ran left before stopping to throw right to Golden Richards for the game-sealing touchdown.

Newhouse said later he was nervous in the huddle because of an excess of Stickum, the now-



PHOTOS BY ROB KOZLOFF, ABOVE, AND CHARLIE RIEDEL, LEFT/AP

In the photo above, taken Jan. 25, 1987, New York Giants receiver Phil McConkey throws his arms in the air after catching Phil Simms' flea-flicker pass and was stopped just short of the end zone in the third quarter of Super Bowl XXI in Pasadena, Calif. The official is Pat Millette. At left, an official signals that the New Orleans Saints recovered the ball after an on-side kick, as Saints punter Thomas Morstead (6) reacts during the second half of Super Bowl XLIV against the Indianapolis Colts, in Miami on Feb. 7, 2010.

banned substance once used by skill-position players to grip the ball more easily, on his hands.

"Preston Pearson handed me this rag, and I was in there scrubbing it all," Newhouse said in an interview with The Dallas Morning News.

### Let 'em have it

Trick plays aren't only for the offense. Green Bay, the champion after the 1996 season, was going for back-to-back titles the following year in San Diego. With the game tied after the two-minute warning, Packers coach Mike Holmgren liked his team's chance of scoring another touchdown with the ball back better than stopping Denver on second-and-goal from the 1. So they let Terrell Davis into the end zone without trying to tackle him.

The strategy almost worked. The Packers had 105 seconds left

and drove to the 31, but the Broncos held on for the 31-24 victory.

### Steelers surprise

Leading Seattle by four points early in the fourth quarter in Detroit in 2006, Pittsburgh got the ball back with an interception at its 5-yard line. A return, a penalty and three plays later, coach Bill Cowher made a bold call.

Running back Willie Parker handed off to wide receiver Antwan Randle El on a first-and-10 reverse from the Seahawks 43. Then Randle El, a former college quarterback at Indiana, halted his run and heaved the ball to a wide-open Hines Ward for the 21-10 final score. That's the only touchdown pass by a wide receiver in Super Bowl history.

"When we called it, my eyes lit up, and I had to try to not give it away," Randle El said.

# Bag: History of trickery on both sides of Sunday's contest

### FROM BACK PAGE

"I think it's great bag," Carroll said of the man who succeeded him with much success as the New England coach. "It's within rules; it's great bag. They are figuring out a way to get an advantage. ... It makes you stay on your toes; I think it's really good coaching."

Belichick has long been known as a coach who will pursue every advantage, a doggedness that has helped him win three Super Bowls.

But has also gotten him in trouble.

In 2007, the Patriots were caught videotaping the other team's signals despite a warning from the league to stop doing it. Belichick was fined \$500,000, and the team was fined and forced to give up a

first-round draft pick.

Now Belichick is under suspicion again because the NFL found that the footballs used in New England's victory over the Colts in the AFC championship game were insufficiently inflated. On Thursday, Belichick denied having anything to do with the deflated footballs.

But there's no doubt that he is intimately familiar with the rule book and willing to push its limits.

For fear of giving up a competitive advantage, he listed quarterback Tom Brady on the injury report as probable every week for three years. Brady played in every game, and the league eventually changed the reporting rules to combat the tactic.

In lamenting the lineman shuffling that

confused him, Baltimore coach John Harbaugh acknowledged it was legal — though it would take a Talmudic understanding of the rule book to explain it — but was so frustrated that he took an unsportsmanlike conduct penalty to give his players a chance to figure out the matchups.

In that same game, the Patriots also scored a touchdown on a pass by receiver Julian Edelman, a college quarterback who had never thrown a pass in the NFL. Belichick has also pulled out the dropkick, the pooch punt and the intentional safety.

The Seahawks have their own history of trick plays.

It was a touchdown pass by receiver Golden Tate against the Jets in 2012, and a flea-flicker to Jermaine Kearse last sea-

son vs. Atlanta. Seattle faked a field goal against Washington during this past regular season and another in the playoffs.

Trick plays can make a coach look like a genius or a fool, but that's not really the point either. Just knowing they are in the opponent's playbook can keep a team off-balance and force it to prepare for unlikely options at the expense of more useful practice time.

And even if the coaches go conservative in the Super Bowl, that's almost as good.

"We thought it would work," Patriots quarterback Tom Brady said with a sly smile after his pass to tackle Nate Solder went for a touchdown against the Colts in the AFC championship. "So, I don't know. Maybe we have more tricks up our sleeve."

## SUPER BOWL

## Injured Legion of Boom members unfazed

Seahawks' Sherman, Thomas say they're OK to play

BY BARRY WILNER  
The Associated Press

PHOENIX — The two All-Pro in the Legion of Boom promise they'll be ready and "fearless" for the Super Bowl.

Seattle safety Earl Thomas (separated left shoulder) and cornerback Richard Sherman (left elbow) are damaged goods, suffering injuries in the NFC championship overtime victory against Green Bay.

On Sunday, they showed little to no concern about how they will feel — and perform — against the New England Patriots.

"If my mental is right, my body just mirrors that," said Thomas, who returned to practice Friday. "It's a lot to deal with, my first major injury. I got the big picture.

"When I come alive nothing is limited. I can still play fearless and throw my body around and whatever happens, happens."

Pretty much what Sherman had to say, too, when the Seahawks arrived in Phoenix.

"It's getting better," Sherman said of the elbow. "I had a good week of practice so it should be good. I've been able to move it a lot better than I did earlier."

Seattle's superb secondary is aggressive, deep and versatile, with strong safety Kam

Chancellor a perfect complement to the All-Pro, and Byron Maxwell solid on the corner opposite Sherman. That unit often gives the Seahawks an edge against opponents, and this opponent, particularly Tom Brady throwing to Rob Gronkowski and Julian Edelman, is as dangerous as they come.

"They are the only team in our way. They are definitely dangerous," Thomas said. "Tom is a general. He understands the game so well. His pocket presence is smooth. He doesn't predetermine too much. He kind of flows with the game and that is why he has been so great."

Sherman and Thomas have been that, too, in the past two seasons. Perhaps only New England's Darrelle Revis can match Sherman as a cover cornerback, and Thomas is, by far, the most well-rounded safety in the league.

Of course, that's when they are at near full-strength. Will they be on Sunday?

Coach Pete Carroll is confident they will be, well, boomers.

"Richard practiced in all the practices and he looks to be fine," Carroll said. "He still has an elbow to take care of, but he's practiced well. Earl practiced (Saturday), the day before and got the last day of practice in and looked fine. Both those guys are



DAVID J. PHILLIPS/AP

**Seahawks cornerback Richard Sherman answers a question at a news conference for Super Bowl XLIX on Sunday in Phoenix. Sherman said he will be ready to play Sunday despite an elbow injury.**

scheduled to play and should be OK. They have to deal with their issues, but they'll be playing in the football game."

Thomas is certain they will be playing as effectively as ever.

"We can do whatever we want to do if we are all together," Thomas said. "We haven't lost sight of the same mindset that got us here. No matter what misdirection we may give off. We still know who we are."



**New England Patriots vs. Seattle Seahawks at Phoenix AFN-Sports  
Midnight Sunday CET  
8 a.m. Sunday JKT**

The Seahawks also know the Patriots are no slouches in the secondary, either. Revis is an All-Pro, Devin McCourty is solid, and former Seahawk Brandon Browner starts at cornerback opposite Revis.

Jermaine Kearse, who caught the winning touchdown passes from Russell Wilson in the last two NFC title games, knows just what he and the Seattle receivers will face.

"It's going to be exciting to go against BB, especially in a game like this," Kearse said. "Going against him last year in practice with stuff, he's a real competitive guy and I feel like our guys are extremely competitive as well, so I think we will be looking forward to the matchup."

## Players used to talk of pregame ailments

BY HOWARD FENDRICH  
The Associated Press

Perhaps already annoyed by the attention to his left elbow ahead of the Super Bowl, Seattle Seahawks cornerback Richard Sherman used a quip to answer one reporter's question about that joint's range of motion.

"If I had to slap my brother," Sherman replied, "I'd be able to do it."

Seattle's other All-Pro defensive back, safety Earl Thomas, is dealing with a bum shoulder and not only missed practices but also avoided the media, which is one way to avoid the question that soon becomes a big part of the buildup to the big game: How hurt are you?

Ever since Sherman was injured in the NFC championship game, he has maintained he expects to play against the New England Patriots on Feb. 1. He's been practicing and called the elbow "a little sore, but not too bad."

Thomas' status is less certain. Whenever either is near a microphone or notepad over the next week, updates will be sought.

While the NFL's investigation of the underinflated footballs used by the Patriots in the AFC championship game has been getting a ton of attention, there will be room for other topics. Fans of both teams want to know about injuries, as does anyone planning to place a wager on Super Sunday's outcome.



JEFF ROBINSON/AP

**In this Feb. 5, 2012, photo, Patriots tight end Rob Gronkowski runs on the field with taped up ankles before Super Bowl XLVI against the New York Giants in Indianapolis.**

Over the years, key injuries to key players — including a couple of guys still with the Patriots — have been breathlessly charted in the days before kickoff.

Here's a look at some famous examples, including a few involving Super Bowl MVPs:

**Rob Gronkowski, Patriots, 2012:** After catching 17 touchdown passes, a record for a tight end, he sprained his left ankle in the AFC title game. The appetite for information was not helped by New England coach Bill Belichick's general reluctance to provide details on injuries. A Buffalo TV station cited Gronkowski's fa-



PHIL SANDLIN/AP

**San Francisco 49ers wide receiver Jerry Rice dives into the end zone for a touchdown during the third quarter of Super Bowl XXIII against the Cincinnati Bengals on Jan. 22, 1989. Rice, who had sprained his ankle the Monday before the game, was voted MVP with 11 catches for 215 yards.**

ther as saying Rob would be fine. "The only reason it's getting so blown up is because it's the Super Bowl," Gronk said at Media Day. **The game:** He had only two catches for 26 yards in New England's 21-17 loss to the New York Giants; a desperation heave on the final play left just out of a lunging Gronkowski's reach.

**Tom Brady, Patriots, 2002:** In his first season as an NFL starting quarterback, Brady sprained his left ankle in the AFC championship game. It wasn't until the Wednesday before the Super Bowl that Belichick announced the youngster would start over Drew Bledsoe. Belichick even went so far as to ask a pool reporter not to identify who took the most snaps at QB in practice. **The game:** Brady was voted MVP. He went 16-for-27 for just 145 yards but didn't throw an interception

and led the drive to the winning field goal in New England's 20-17 victory over the St. Louis Rams.

**Emmitt Smith, Cowboys, 1994:** The league's career leading rusher separated his right shoulder in the last game of the regular season; he wound up having offseason surgery. After the NFC title game, Smith was asked about his shoulder, and he joked that Dallas coach Jimmy Johnson "said it's healed, so I guess it's healed." **The game:** Smith was voted MVP. He ran for 132 yards and two second-half touchdowns in the Cowboys' 30-13 victory over the Buffalo Bills.

**Jerry Rice, 49ers, 1989:** The man with by far the most yards receiving in NFL history sprained his right ankle during practice the Monday before the Super Bowl. After he showed up for interviews the next day with

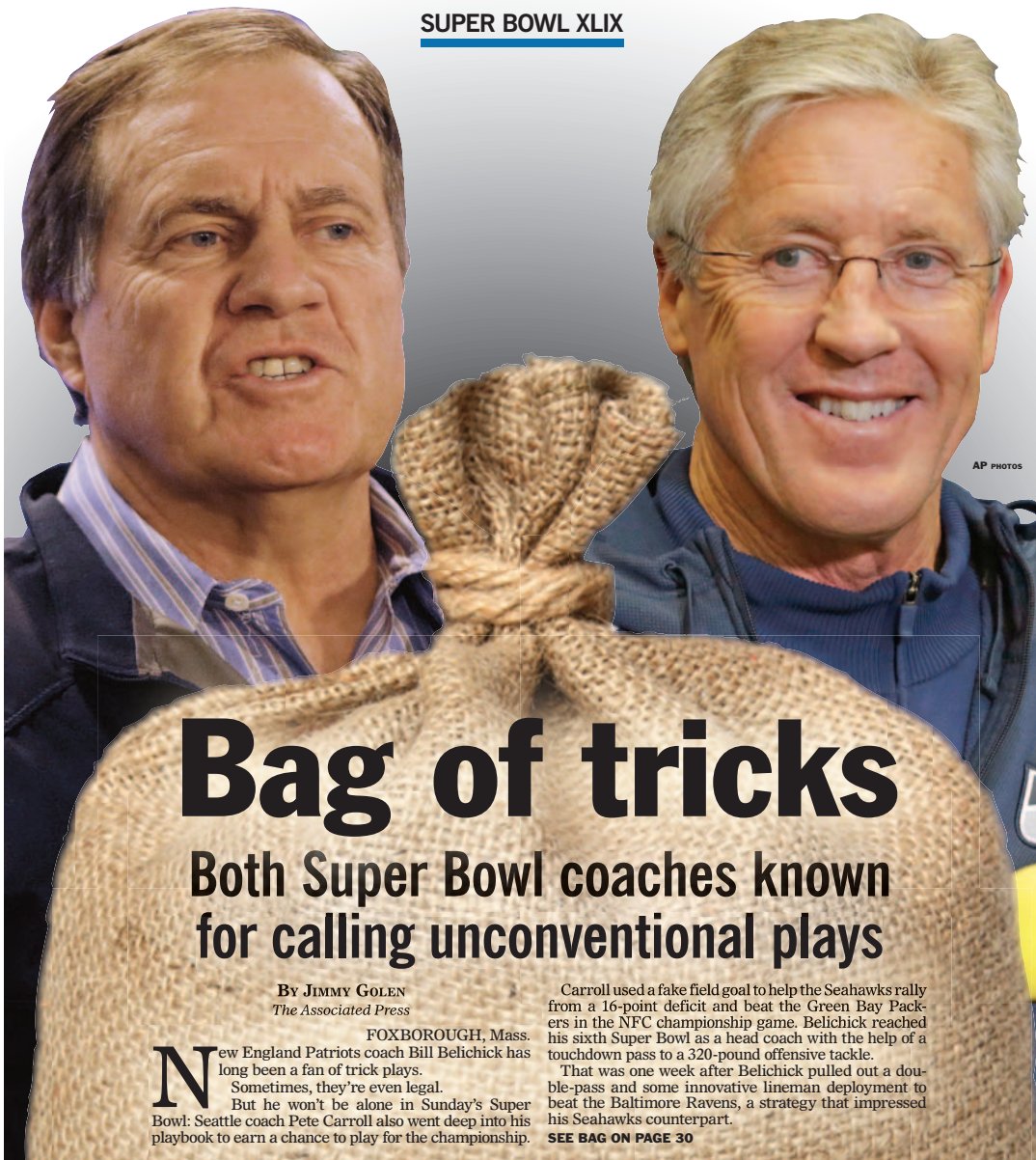
that ankle taped, folks starting discussion whether someone such as Mike Wilson would be able to fill in capably. **The game:** Rice was voted MVP. He had 11 catches for 215 yards and one TD, and had three grabs for 51 yards on the winning drive in a 20-16 victory over the Cincinnati Bengals.

**Don Maynard, Jets, 1969:** Maynard — like Smith and Rice, a member of the Pro Football Hall of Fame — injured his hamstring in the AFL championship game. But it was, of course, a different era, without Twitter and 24-hour TV channels. According to lore, the Jets' Super Bowl opponent didn't even know Maynard was hurt. **The game:** Maynard was used as a decoy and wound up with zero catches, but Joe Namath and the Jets beat the NFL's Baltimore Colts 16-7.



## SPORTS


**1,000 games and Kounting**

 Coach K reaches win milestone with victory over St. John's » **Page 26**
**SUPER BOWL XLIX**


AP PHOTOS

# Bag of tricks

## Both Super Bowl coaches known for calling unconventional plays

By JIMMY GOLEN  
The Associated Press

FOXBOROUGH, Mass.

**N**ew England Patriots coach Bill Belichick has long been a fan of trick plays.

Sometimes, they're even legal.

But he won't be alone in Sunday's Super Bowl: Seattle coach Pete Carroll also went deep into his playbook to earn a chance to play for the championship.

Carroll used a fake field goal to help the Seahawks rally from a 16-point deficit and beat the Green Bay Packers in the NFC championship game. Belichick reached his sixth Super Bowl as a head coach with the help of a touchdown pass to a 320-pound offensive tackle.

That was one week after Belichick pulled out a double-pass and some innovative lineman deployment to beat the Baltimore Ravens, a strategy that impressed his Seahawks counterpart.

**SEE BAG ON PAGE 30**

Offense takes over in highest-scoring  
NHL All-Star Game ever » **Page 25**

Williams sisters both advance  
to Australian quarterfinals » **Page 28**

